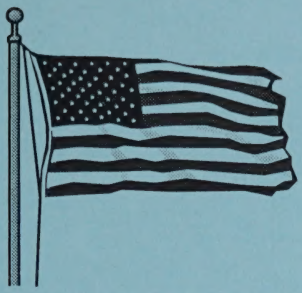
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Annual Report of the Belknap County Commissioners For the County of Belknap

For the year ending
December 31, 2001

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Annual Report Of The

Belknap County Commissioners

For The

County Of Belknap

For the year ending
December 31, 2001

Dedication

Norman C. Marsh
1936 – 2001



The Belknap County Commissioners wish to dedicate the 2001 Belknap County Annual report to former Commissioner Norman C. Marsh. Norm was County Commissioner from 1979 – 1999, graciously serving county residents for 20 years. Norm is remembered as a dedicated, loyal and honest man respected by his constituents.

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2001 Belknap County Officers

COMMISSIONERS
Mark E. Thurston, Chairman – Sanbornton
Christopher D. Boothby, Vice-Chairman – Meredith
Philip P. Daigneault, Clerk – Laconia

COUNTY TREASURER
Robert E. Corbin – Belmont

COUNTY ATTORNEY
Lauren J. Noether – Tilton

SHERIFF
Stephen G. Hodges – Meredith

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
Dana W. Zucker – Gilford

JUDGE OF PROBATE
Christina M. O'Neill – Laconia

REGISTRAR OF PROBATE
Estelle J. Dearborn – Laconia

DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF PROBATE
Lorraine V. Robie – Laconia

REGISTRAR OF DEEDS
Rachel M. Normandin – Laconia

DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF DEEDS
Judith A. Livernois – Sanbornton

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR & FINANCE DIRECTOR
Nancy E. Cook – Weirs

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Joseph R. Panarello – Hillsborough

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Brian J. Loanes

NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR
Karen J. Painter – Alton

HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR
Carol N. Schonfeld – Gilmanton

COUNTY MEDICAL REFEREE
Virginia Chapman, A.D.M.E. – Kim Fallon, A.D.M.E.

SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
D. William Jenkins – Thornton

COUNTY CHAPLAIN
Reverend Harry Woodley

2001
Belknap County Convention
(Legislative Delegation)

District No. 1
Center Harbor and Meredith
Stephen Nedeau – David Lawton

District No. 2
New Hampton, Sanbornton and Tilton
Thomas Salatiello – Francine Wendelboe

District No. 3
Belmont
John Thomas – James Pilliod

District No. 4
Gilford
Alida Millham – William Johnson

District No. 5
Alton, Gilmanton and Barnstead
David Russell – Laurie Boyce – Stanley Czech

District No. 6
New Hampton, Sanbornton, Tilton, Belmont, Gilford, Alton, Gilmanton and Barnstead
Gordon Bartlett

District No. 7
Laconia (Elected at-Large)
Thomas Rice - Ralph Rosen
Glenn Dewhirst – Donald Flanders
Robert Holbrook – Jane Wood

Executive Committee
Gordon Bartlett – Alida Millham
Thomas Rice Jr. – Robert G. Holbrook
David Russell – John H. Thomas
Thomas Salatiello

Belknap County Directory

Board of Commissioners..... **527-5400**
Chairman: Mark E. Thurston, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5409**
Vice Chairman: Christopher D. Boothby, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246
Clerk: Philip P. Daigneault, 34 County Dive, Laconia, NH 03246

County Treasurer..... **527-5400**
Robert E. Corbin, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5409**

County Chief Administrator and Finance Officer..... **527-5400**
Nancy E. Cook, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5409**

County Attorney..... **527-5440**
Lauren J. Noether, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5449**

Registrar of Deeds..... **527-5420**
Rachel Normandin, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5429**

Sheriff..... **527-5454**
Stephen G. Hodges, 42 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5469**

Corrections Superintendent..... **527-5480**
Joseph R. Panarello, 76 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5489**

Restorative Justice Program Director..... **527-5454**
Brian J. Loanes, 42 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5469**

Human Services Administrator..... **527-5470**
Carol N. Schonfeld, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5471**

Maintenance Supervisor..... **527-5490**
D. William Jenkins, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5449**

Nursing Home Administrator..... **527-5410**
Karen J. Painter, 30 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5419**

UNH Cooperative Extension Administrator..... **527-5475**
Sumner Dole, 36 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 527-5477**

Conservation District Director..... **527-5880**
Jan Hooper, 719 North Main Street, Room #203, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 528-8783**

Economic Development Council Executive Director..... **524-3057**
Eliza Leadbeater, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax: 524-0314**

Belknap County Convention
Meeting January 11, 2001
Briefing on Belknap County Juvenile Justice Initiative

Convention members present: Rep. Czech, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Rice, Rep. Holbrook, Rep. W. Johnson, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Bartlett, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Wood, Rep. Millham.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Chairman Bartlett. Introductions were made and the meeting turned over to Sheila Weeks for a presentation on the Belknap County Juvenile Justice Initiative. The following people who have been working with the "Initiative" were present: G. Schohan, D. Guyer, L. Sanfacon, A. Paquette, P. Daignault, A. Robichaud, R. Batstone, J. Buswell, S. Weeks, W. Martin, C. Schonfeld, E. Greenfield, A. Millham.

County Commissioners present: Mark Thurston and Philip Daignault

Other members of the public present were: R. Turner, D. Stamps, J. Dodge

The following represents information relayed to the group by Sheila Weeks as the Project Manager for the Belknap County Juvenile Justice Initiative.

In 1999 there was $4,262,376 spent on justice related to juveniles in Belknap County. Of this amount $944,763 was directly from the Belknap County budget.

In the next 15 years the number of 15-19 year olds is predicted to increase by 46%. It is furthermore expected that the percentage of juveniles requiring justice related intervention will increase at the same rate. To accommodate this increase will require increased taxation, relocation of funds, philanthropy, prevention, and increased citizen volunteerism.

Issues noted in the current system:

- Victims of juvenile crime are left out of the process.
- Citizens have little of no say regarding outcomes.
- Offenders may not take responsibility because of delays in the court system and lack of services.

- Little or no local input or funds is spent on services to families and children.

The local "Initiative" group formed after District Court Judge Willard Martin viewed a "community justice" program in Deschutes County, Oregon and felt it had merit for Belknap County. There, in Oregon, "community justice" is a partnership involving local government, private entities, community groups, and private citizens. The current plan is to present the project mission and goals to all communities in Belknap County. The group is seeking the support and help of the Belknap County Delegation in making this effort happen.

The 7 Guiding Principles of the Juvenile Justice Initiative are:

1. Establish a lay citizen's council
2. Bring the control of the juvenile justice system closer to Belknap County
3. Encourage citizen volunteerism and support
4. Initiate a planned system of "restorative justice".
5. Improve the effectiveness and accountability of what is going on in juvenile justice.
6. Help develop advocacy and prevention programs.
7. Coordinate the use of existing funds.

The steps to this end are:

1. The Belknap County Commissioners will appoint a 15 member Citizens Council.
2. The Council, in turn, would create a Professional Advisory Committee.
3. The Council would launch a " Restorative Justice" program. (There is currently a grant being written to meet this goal.)
4. Encourage community support.

Questions and Answers:

1. Rep. Johnson expressed the need to keep a focus on the family rather than just the juvenile. Answer: There is a strong interest in the Initiative toward family support. The programs need to be strengthened in order to move in that direction.
2. Rep. Rice said it is a project that is "long overdue". He added, "getting the program up and running is half the battle, the other half is keeping it going." He suggested getting a respected member of the media involved in the beginning. Answer: It was noted that in Deschutes County a public relations firm donated a PR Plan.

3. Citizen Jim Dodge expressed support and voiced concern about the dollars needed for success.
4. Judge Martin noted that at some point in time the legislature should look at opening up the system to public view.
5. Rep. Pilliod noted that there is a juvenile justice program in Kings County Seattle, Washington that the group should look into.
6. Rep. Wood expressed support and asked how people will volunteer. Answer: Judge Martin said there will be a Drug Court program developing in Laconia/ Plymouth/ and Concord that will be a beginning place for significant volunteerism.
7. Rep. Czech asked what are the results in Deschutes County. Answer: There is no current statistical information.
8. Commissioner Thurston noted that Belknap County had 11% of the children at Youth Development Center which is a high number given the population of Belknap County.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention
Public Hearing on 2001 Budget
Meeting—January 24, 2001

Present: Rep. Holbrook, Rep.Dewhirst, Rep. Wood, Rep. Salatiello, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Thomas, Chairman Bartlett, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Russell, Rep. Czech, Rep. Wendleboe, Rep. Rice, Rep. Millham.

County Commissioners: Comm. Thurston, Comm. Boothby, Comm. Daigneault

County Treasurer: Robert Corbin

Absent: Rep. Lawton, Rep. Flanders.

Chairman Gordon Bartlett called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. He turned the meeting over to County Commissioner Mark Thurston for the public hearing portion of the meeting. The public was asked to offer their questions and comments on the 2001 Belknap County budget. These included the following:

1. Mr. Dodge asked the cost to keep someone in the Belknap County Nursing Home as compared to what it costs in a private nursing home. *The answer that the charge per day is $195. The Medicaid reimbursement per day is $134. There are currently 100 individuals in private facilities on Medicaid, reimbursed at the Medicaid rate. The charge for private care of a private patient was not known.*

 Mr. Dodge made a statement that Gunstock is not being "handled", it is doubling the burden on the taxpayer because Gunstock can use the money as they "please" without oversight by any legislative body. *The response by Rep. Wendelboe was that the statement was true but this body had made a decision and we must live by that act.*

 Mr. Dodge noted that Gunstock has been justified because it is a "park" and because it stimulates business. He recommended someone of great "business experience" to run the Area.

2. Mr. Condodemotracky asked for a clarification of why the Gunstock line item increased by 9.6%. *The answer from Commissioner Thurston was because of the agreement between Gunstock and the Area Commission.*

 Mr. Condodemotracky asked what would happen if Gunstock got into a similar situation in the future? *Answer from Comm. Thurston was that the Commissioners have no authority over Gunstock.. Rep. Rosen added that*

Gunstock, on January 1, was already $250,000 ahead of projections and $350,000 over last year at the same time.. Rep. Johnson aksed if there was any thought of a "rainy day fund"? Rep. Pilliod added that Gunstock has been able to cover operating costs in most of the recent years, just has been unable to cover debt service in some of the years. Rep. Wood that the percentage increase in the budget does not reflect the $150,000 plus that Gunstock will be paying. Therefore the amount being appropriated is less than was paid last year.

3. Mr. Dodge noted that the Providian survey for the Child Advocacy Group shows how poor we are in Belknap County, especially Laconia and Tilton.

4. Rep. Rice noted that four years ago he took an informal survey over a short period of time that indicated Gunstock is not a drag on the County, only on the County budget. There are 200 plus jobs at Gunstock; 500 plus in subsidiary jobs; and the Gunstock budget rolls over at least three times in the area.

5. Rep. Wendleboe asked the Commissioners if the "Galway Superior Court Decision" poses a problem for money borrowing for the County. *Commissioner Thurston replied, there is the potential of a problem borrowing money, although the County has cash flow to carry the County until April. He added that in Merrimack County the bond counsel of Citizens Bank was not willing to offer bond authority based on that decision. He went on to note that one of the biggest problems would be paying the state for the Medicaid match.*

6. Rep. Wendleboe mentioned a change in the Veterans benefit through the Veterans Administration and suggested it be a subject of research.

7. A question was asked about when the last time the sheriff's fees were raised? *Answer was that there is a bill in the legislature to raise the fees.*

8. Rep. Rice noted that the 15% increase in the gross budget is ameliorated by the increase in property values. He asked if there was a projection of the County rate?

9. Rep. Wendleboe asked about the Youth Development Center rate and noted that there is legislation to raise the juvenile age from 17 to 18 which would impact the budget.

Commissioner Thurston requested a release of the 1996 PNMI accrual (Memo attached).

Motion by Rep. Thomas to grant authority to release the balance in the amount of $117,022.94. These funds are requested to offset the budget deficit in the Human Services Department for the Year 2000.

Transfer is as follows:

1-2110-003 (A/P State of NH Human Services) $117,022.94
Revenue 1-4090-0002 Recoveries $56,016.94
Expenditure 1-4190-0375 APTD $61,006.00

Motion seconded by Rep. Wood with unanimous approval.

County Treasurer Robert Corbin requested the Convention authorize the Commissioners to borrow in anticipation of taxes the amount of $9,888,939.

Motion by Rep. Thomas to authorize the Commissioners to borrow in anticipation of taxes, $9,888,939. Motion seconded by Rep. Wood. Unanimous approval.

Motion made by Rep. Nedeau and seconded by Rep. Wood to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Alida Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention
Meeting March 21, 2001
At Belknap County Complex

Present: Rep. Thomas, Chairman Bartlett, Rep. Czech, Rep. Millham, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Rice, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Holbrook, Rep. Dewhirst, Rep. Salatiello, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Wood, Rep. Russell, Rep. L. Boyce, Rep. Pilliod.

Item 1: Motion by Rep. Thomas to authorize retaining the $100,000 in the Capital Reserve Fund, in the Capital Reserve. Seconded. Unanimous vote in favor.

Item 2: It was noted that a change in the budget is to add a line item for the Restorative Justice Program. There is a proposal being written to be submitted to the NH Department of Justice for $150,000. This amount will be added to the budget with an equal expense.

Item 3: Motion by Rep. Thomas that based on the report of the Committee on Wages there be a 5.45% wage increase for County personnel: Nancy Cook, Joseph Panarello, Carol Schonfeld, David Jenkins. Seconded by Jane Wood. Unanimous vote in favor.

Item 4: The Convention Chairman appointed Robert Turner to be the Deputy Treasurer. David Russell noted that this should be a bonded position. That fact was duly noted.

Item 5: It was noted that the Nursing Home boiler will be replaced in about a month. There are two boilers and only one is being replaced. It is anticipated that the other one will need to be replaced in the future at some time. It is not causing any problem at this time.

Item 6: There was recognition of Robert Chase, Belknap County Nursing Home Administrator who has resigned to accept a similar position in Merrimack County. Lori Brown, who is also leaving to go to Merrimack County Nursing Home, was also recognized. Kathleen Lord, the Belknap County Nursing Home Director of Nursing Services was also recognized on the occasion of her retirement.

Item 7: The Commissioner reported that the note to cover the tax anticipation loan has been obtained.

Item 8: Review of and action on the Final Budget:

a. Rep Holbrook presented the Commissioners Budget. It was approved by the subcommittee as presented with a change in the professional liability.
b. The Finance Budget recommended as presented.
c. The County Attorney budget recommended as presented.
d. The Registrar of Deeds budget recommended as presented.

The following resolution was moved by Rep. Nedeau and seconded by Rep. Thomas.

1. *Be it resolved by the Belknap County Convention duly convened and pursuant to NHRSA 478:17, 11 (c) that only sums hereinafter detailed in this resolution, are hereby appropriated to be paid out of the County Treasury from the Register of Deeds Equipment Account for the purposes specified below:*

 a. *Plan Card conversion in the amount of $4,500.00*
 b. *Book restoration project in the amount of $6,500.00*
 c. *Reimburse the County for the entire Laser/Optical scanning lease in the amount of $39,000.00.*
 d. *Roller shelving for the storage area in the amount of$5,000.00.*

2. *This resolution shall take effect upon approval of a majority vote of the Belknap County Board of Commissioners and the County Convention.*

VOTE taken by the Belknap County Commissioners on the 21st day of March, 2001. Signed Mark Thurston, Chairman.

The vote of the convention was for unanimous approval of the motion.

Commissioner Thurston noted that the Convention might want to introduce legislation for more easily accommodating technology needs of the Registry. The Registrar is concerned that broadening the language might open the door for using the revenue out of the Registry. Rep. Wood suggested that the issue be studied.

Item 9: Rep Rice presented the following budget recommendations:

a. Sheriff/ Correction budgets reflect a 6.74% increase. The changes approved by the subcommittee and recommended to the Convention.
Rep. Rice reported that the State may provide the Sheriff's office with digital communication equipment. Rep. Czech noted that the cost to the County is $100,000 ($50,000 per year). Rep. Wendleboe noted that the microwave system is from the Sheriff's office to the top of Mt. Belknap. This led to a further discussion of upgrading the communication systems.
b. Medical Referee budget recommended as presented.
c. Airport Authority recommended as presented.

Item 10: Rep. Holbrook presented the following budgets:

a. Maintenance Department: recommended as presented.
b. Human Services: recommended as presented.
c. Outside agencies: recommended as presented.

Item: 11: Rep. Rosen made note that the Gunstock budget will not be considered until later, after the winter ski season is over. He did report that it has been a good winter for Gunstock.

Upon a motion by Rep. Thomas, the Budget was approved as presented and recommended. The amount of the County budget including the Gunstock bond payments as stipulated in the agreement between the Convention and Gunstock is: $11,845,575. The total budget including the bond payments and the Nursing Home is: $18,205,798. The amount to be raised by taxes is: $9,974,571. Seconded with unanimous vote of approval.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
May 16, 2001

Present: Rep. Gordon Bartlett, Chairman, Rep Robert Holbrook, Rep. Tom Rice, Rep. John Thomas, Rep. Dave Russell, Rep. Alida Millham. Commissioners Philip Daigneault, Mark Thurston. Nancy Cook, County Administrator.

The meeting was commenced at 7:30 under the leadership of the Convention Chair, Rep. Bartlett. The meeting agenda included the following budget related issues.

1. Court House Sprinkler System: The required addition of sprinklers to the Court House was planned as a three-phase project with Superior Fire Protection holding the winning bid of $161,400. It is the desire of the Commissioners, since they have a budget surplus, to condense the project into two phases. This will require moving the item from one budget year to the current year. Rep. Robert Holbrook moved and Rep. Russell seconded a motion to authorize the use of $76,000 for the sprinkler system project. Discussion and unanimous approval of the motion by the Executive Committee.

2. Fund Balance: The Commissioners indicated that there is a $1,880,000 surplus, which is $250,000 over the budgeted surplus.

3. The Nursing Home Boiler: The defunct boiler has been replaced. The Commissioners anticipate that the second boiler will probably have a problem soon and they were both installed at the same time.

4. County Complex Roof: An ice dam backup has damaged the roof on the new wing. Over the central corridor. There is also a leak in the sheriff's kitchen area. The Commissioners are tending to the situation.

5. Sheriff Department Budget Issues:

 a. The expense for special detail funding has increased greatly, mostly due to special work on the roads and the cable company work being done in the County. There has been an increase from $18,000 in 1999 to $43,453 in 2000. There is a need to adjust both the revenue and expense areas of the budget as it is

a "wash" item. Motion by Rep. John Thomas, seconded by Rep. Robert Holbrook to adjust both line items by $100,000. Discussion and unanimous approval by the members of the Executive Committee.

b. New Hampshire Retirement System and Tom Alden: The Executive Committee was informed that there will be a hearing regarding a reclassification of Tom Alden's Retirement time because of other time credited to time employed as a police officer. This adjustment affects about one third of the time he has accumulated.

6. Auditor recommendation: The auditor has recommends the inclusion of a Capital Reserve Fund. The County Budget has never included a budget item for depreciation. (This year the amount would be $212,000.) GASB 34 will be required in 2002 so the Commissioners will want to include the item in next years budget. This issue for information only.

7. Airport Eminent Domain proceedings: The Airport is involved in eminent domain proceedings regarding some area expansion of the airport.

8. Registry of Deeds Budget Addition: The Registry of Deeds needs an additional $6500 budgeted to complete the map and Plan conversion. Motion by Rep. John Thomas and seconded by Rep Robert Holbrook to that effect. Discussion. Unanimous approval by the Executive Committee.

9. Motion made by Rep. David Russell and seconded by Rep. John Thomas to pay the Deputy Treasurer $30 per time (a per day rate) he is required to function in lieu of the Treasurer. Discussion. Unanimous approval by the Executive Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention
Public Hearing
Gunstock Budget and Master Plan
Meeting---July 10, 2001

Present: Chairman Bartlett, Rep L. Boyce, Rep. Czech, Rep Dewhirst, Rep. Holbrook, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Millham, Rep Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Rice, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Russell, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Wendelboe

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Chairman Gordon Bartlett. The meeting was turned over to County Commissioner Mark Thurston for the purpose of presented some changes in the current budget.

These changes include:

1. Supplemental Appropriation (MS 42) Reducing Revenue through Taxation.
 - Sheriff's Department Special Details ($100,000). Currently at $55,000.
 -Revenue (1-4040-0003) plus $45,000
 -Expenditure (1-41400195) plus $45,000

 •Gunstock additional revenue of $267,937 ($150,000 per agreement; $117,937 additional per agreement.)

 • Use additional Surplus to fund Nursing Home Depreciation ($250,000) as recommended by the auditor. After the audit there is $1,088,496 undesignated Fund Balance.
 -General Fund Surplus: 1-4091-0001 (at $750,000)
 - General Fund Appropriation to NH 1-90000-0009 (at $896,980)
 - Nursing Home Transfer Revenue: 2-5020-0019 (at $896,980)
 - Nursing Home Depreciation: 2-9600-0000 (at $0).

 • LAWNET (currently at $50,000) (Expense: 1-4140-0907)

2. Sprinkler ($6,000 Approx.) (Expense: 1-4140-0907. To Finish Court Room #2 and jury room. Fund out of the contingency after the work is done in August.

Motion made by Rep. John Thomas to approve the above described changes. Seconded by Rep. Steve Nedeau. Discussion. Unanimous approval of the motion.

3. Nursing Home Transfers:
 - From Maintenance 02-5110-0923 $2,000 (seal parking lot.)
 Nursing 02-5110-0908 $3,000 (replace sterilizer)
 Administration 02-5110-0320 $ 948.12 (audit)
 TOTALING: $5,948.12

 - To: Maintenance 02-5110-0914 $5948.12 (Boiler Replacement)

 - From Nursing 02-5140-0130 $4,000 (RN Salaries)
 and 02-5140-0150 $36,000 (CNA Salaries)
 - To: Nursing 02-5140-0192 $40,000 (Overtime)

 - From Nursing 02-5140-0130 $1,000 (RN salaries)
 and 02-5140-0150 $49,000(CNA salaries)
 - To Nursing 02-5140-0340 $50,000 (contracted Nursing)

Motion made by Rep. John Thomas to authorize the Nursing Home Transfers. Seconded by Rep. James Pilliod. Discussion (Rep. Johnson asked how this change would affect service. Answer from Commissioner Boothby indicated that careful planning would hopefully avoid any change in the quality of service.) Unanimous approval of the motion.

Motion made by Rep. Holbrook to adopt the Year 2001 budget authorizing the General Fund Expenditures in the amount of $12,987,555 and Nursing Home Expenditures in the amount of $6,610,223. This brings the Year 2001 budget to a grand total of $19,597,778. In addition, the Belknap County Treasurer is authorized to raise revenue by taxation in the amount of $9,806,571. The clerk is authorized to make such monetary changes to the budget as may be necessary to submit the final budget to the Department of Revenue Administration (MS042) (Supplemental). Seconded by Rep. Nedeau. Unanimous approval of the motion.

Commissioner Thurston informed the Convention of the death of Marie Gondolfi who had been the Long Term Care Coordinator for the County. The Commissioner expressed sorrow at her passing and expressed strong praise for the work she had done for the County.

Motion by Rep. Glenn Dewhirst to instruct the Clerk to prepare a Resolution regarding the situation of the State of New Hampshire not following through on the promise to fund the development of a recreation park on the State School/ Prison property for the City of Laconia. It was requested that this Resolution be hand delivered by the Chairman to the Governor. Seconded by Rep. Thomas Rice, Jr. Unanimous approval of the motion.

Commissioner Thurston noted that the Route 3 is in deplorable condition and hoped that the Delegation would convey the need for action on improving the road to the proper place in State Government.

The Belknap County Commissioners part of the meeting concluded and the Gunstock Commission came forward to present their budget and their new Master Plan to the County Convention.

Commissioner Claude Richer made a brief presentation regarding the good ski season of 2000-2001. A check was presented to the County Convention in the amount of $117,937 as the amount due in addition to the agreed $150,000 (making a total of $297,937 in contribution to the County from Gunstock) in compliance with the finance agreement between Gunstock and the Belknap County Convention. Comm. Richer indicated that the summer revenue should be in excess of $1,000,000.

The presentation of the budget was made by General Manager Greg Goddard.

Motion made by Rep. John Thomas to adopt the following Resolution:

Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 399:15, 1959 NH Laws as amended, to authorize Belknap County Treasurer to issue notes, on the concurrence of not less than four members of the Gunstock Area Commission, in the amount of Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($650,000) on such terms and conditions as shall be negotiated by the Gunstock Area Commission. Said notes are issued in anticipation of revenues at Gunstock Ski Area and shall have a maturity date of not later than April 1, 2002. All notes issued pursuant to this authority shall contain an express provision that all fees, fares, and tolls as authorized by statute shall continue to be collected until such notes have matured. The Gunstock Area Commission shall pay the principal and interest on said notes out of revenues collected by Gunstock Area. Seconded by Rep. Rosen Roll Call Vote attached. Unanimous approval of the motion 13-0.

Manager Goddard presented the Master Plan:

- The Plan was presented as part of the Convention agreement of 2000. The Plan is comprehensive in nature with a review and analysis of every part of the area operation.
- There was then a determination of the *preliminary* cost estimates.
- The next step is to reevaluate the components of the plan and determine the impact of each part. Any further action will require each plan component to stand on its own in terms of cost and benefit. The desire is to keep Gunstock competitive and solvent.

Questions:

1. Rep. Johnson: Will excess money be put in operating reserve? Ans: Yes.

2. Rep. Johnson: Asked about the margin 13.9% the lowest in awhile? Ans: It is a capital-intensive operation.

3. Rep. Rosen: Comment that the good year was done with current staff and not all ski operations had a good year, noting Ski American which is in financial difficulty.

4. Rep. Boyce: Question about the allocation of some revenue.

5. Rep. Johnson: Noted that he has had past concern that quasi government operations are often not efficient. He feels that the Plan is a fine document, being one of the best he has seen in long time.

6. Jim Dodge: Who did the plan? Was it focused on economy? Ans: Economic projections are the next step. They will inventory the plan and look at what makes sense for the future.

7. Nancy Cook asked question about the leases. Answer made to question.

8. Jim Dodge: He noted that in the memorandum the presence of federal funds in the development of Gunstock has been used as an argument for not selling the area. He has contacted Congressman Bass and Senator Gregg and their offices indicate that it would be easy to undo that obligation. He urged the Convention to find out about the economic condition of Belknap County and find out the number of unredeemed taxes in the County.

9. Rep. Wendelboe: Asked about a decrease in revenue in account 336. Ans: one item in that account is the FEMA money from the ice storm. That was a one-time revenue item.

10. Rep. Wendelboe: Would Gunstock have been able to pay the notes with the income this year. Depending on how it was calculated it was possible, but probably no.

11. Mark Condodemotracky expressed his concern about the burden of Gunstock on the County. He made a statement that people should look at the history. After the debt is paid the County should look into leasing the operation to a private corporation. Ans: Mr. Goddard noted that there is a significant economic impact of Gunstock into the NH and local economy.

12. Rep.Wendelboe: Asked for an outline of the capital expenditures of this past year. Ans: Establishing program to replace expensive (snow grooming) equipment; installing the swimming pool; Road work; ski rental equipment; the Adventure Demo Center (self supporting)

13. Rep. Wendelboe: Since the private consumer is getting reduced electric rates, why is Gunstock budgeting more? Ans: There is a 5% increase because that is the rate negotiated. They are in the fourth year of a five-year contract.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention Meeting 10/25/01

Present: Chairman Bartlett, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Czech, Rep. Dewhirst, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Holbrook, Rep. Millham, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Rice, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Russell Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Wood.

Chairman Bartlett opened the meeting in the Conference Room of the Cooperative Extension Office at 7:30 pm. He noted that the County Commissioners budget is well underway. It appears that the numbers are high. There will be estimates on the roof repairs by 12/01/01. The estimate on the second boiler is $100,000. He added that we might consider bonding these projects. One of the anticipation notes in out at 2.9%.

Rep. Czech announced the redistricting meeting which will be at 7:30 Monday, October 29th at the Laconia High School.

The convention then proceeded with the interviews of candidates for Gunstock Area Commissioner. They were: Col. Robert Laflame, Philip Mercer, Bill McLean and Robert Durfee.

Elected by secret ballot: Philip Mercer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

Belknap County Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
11/01/01 Minutes

Present: Chairman Bartlett, Rep. Millham, Rep. Rice, Rep. Thomas with Commissioners Daigneault and Thurston. Also present Alice Calvert.

Meeting convened at 5:30PM. Motion by Rep. Thomas seconded by Rep. Rice to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a current lawsuit. Affirmative vote. Motion by Rep. Thomas, seconded by Rep. Rice to come out of Executive Session at 6:24. There was no action taken in the Executive Session.

The following line item transfers were discussed.

1. To make the following transfers out of the Belknap County Contingency Fund Account (1-9900-0001) to the Maintenance Account for:

• Court House Security System	$2,200
• Sheriff's Dept Temporary Roof Fix	1,600
• Sheriff's Dept Shed for Lawnet Equipment	1,896
• Balance of Air Flow in OCU (Control Technol)	1,865
• Roof Engineering Study (Nsg. Home/OCU/Jail)	20,000
TOTAL	$27,561

Motion made by Chairman Bartlett and seconded by Rep. Thomas to approve these transfers. The total amount is $27,561.

2. Budget Line Item Transfers for Belknap County Human Services:

• Home Based Care #4190-0377: add $58,000 making budget line	$181,000.
• Proveder Payments #4190-3081: add $21,000 making budget line	$482,250.
• Mid Level Care #4190-0378: substract $30,750 for new budget line of	$0.
• Intermediate Care #4190-0376 subtract $48,250 for new line of	$2,407,132.
TOTAL	$79,000

3. Budget Line Item transfers for the Corrections Budget:

 • Transfer $13,000 from Corrections Food Account #0453 to Overtime Acct. 0192.
 TOTAL $13,000

4. Budget Line Item Transfers for Belknap County Nursing Home :
 • $10,000 From:

Maintenance	02-5110-0923	$2,736.80 Seal Parking Lot.
Maintenance	02-5110-0914	252.81 Boiler Replacement
Nursing	02-5140-0908	3,036.00 Replace Sterilizer
Nursing	02-5140-0909	439.78 Aqua phase W/C
Nursing	02-5140-0903	29.00 Recliners
Administ	02-5100-0320	948.00 Audit
Administ	02-5100-0540	2,557.61 Training

 To: Administration 02-5100-0120 $10,000
 former administrator Termination benefits.

 • $30,000 from Nursing 02-5140-0150 CNA Salaries to Nursing 02-5140-0192 Overtime.

 • $122,900 from Nursing 02-5140-0130 RN Salaries to Nursing 02-5140-0140 LPN Salaries

 • $7,500.00 from Dietary 02-5130-0461 Food to Dietary 02-2130-0460 Nutritional Supplements.

 TOTAL: $170,400

Motion make by Chairman Bartlett seconded by Rep. Thomas to authorize all the transfers requested from the Departments. The amount from the Departments is $262,400. Affirmative vote by all present.

Meeting adjourned at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted.
Rep. Alida I. Millham
Clerk

Belknap County Convention Meeting 12/10/01

The December 10th, 2001 meeting of the Belknap County Convention was called to order at 7:30pm by the chairman, Representative Gordon Bartlett. After introductory remarks, including a note that this is a meeting to receive the budget from the Commissioners and not a "public hearing", the meeting was turned over to the Chairman of the Belknap County Commissioners, Mark Thurston.

Commissioner Thurston introduced the Department Heads and other County employees present. The report of the Commissioners followed:

1. The Sheriff's Department contract negotiations are ongoing.

2. The following budget transfers and carry forward actions for the Year 2001 were made:
 a. It was moved by Rep. John Thomas and seconded by Rep. Nedeau to:

 - transfer $12,000 from Bailiff Salaries (01-4140-0150) to Retirement (01-4140-0220). This was due to an expenditure in detail line item.
 - transfer $7,000 from Dispatcher Salaries (01-4140-0140) to Dispatch Overtime (01-4140-0196). The Department was shorthanded in Dispatchers forcing them to use overtime to keep shifts filled.
 - Transfer $2861 from Commissioners Legal (1-4100-0310) and $4139 from contingency to Medical Referee (1-4150-0344).

 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.

 b. Motion by Rep. Don Flanders and seconded by Rep. John Thomas to approve the following 2001 carry forward items.

 - Court House lighting (1-9800-0005) $7664.55
 - Deeds Storage Facility Renovations (1-4120-0901) $5000.00

 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.

3. Discussion of General Fund current issues:

 a. There is an estimate of $700,000 for roof repairs at the Nursing Home from Provan & Lorber (Ted Kupper). This was for information only and the Commissioners indicated that at the appropriate time they would be probably bonding this project.
 b. It was moved by Rep. John Thomas and seconded by Rep. Nedeau to approve the upgrade of Commissioners Administrative Assistant to Administrative and Accounting Assistant, from Grade 6, Step 7 to Grade 8, Step 7. This action will be effective 1/1/02.
 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.
 c. Moved by Rep. Nedeau and seconded by Rep. Thomas to use $7,000 from contingency for the electrical wiring connected to LAWNET,
 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.
 d. Motion made by Rep. Wood and seconded by Rep. Millham to approve the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families proposal without the line item amount at this time. (That will come later in the budget process). This action allows the project to move forward.
 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.

4. Introduction of Robert Corbin the County Treasurer. He requested the delegation to authorize the borrowing in anticipation of taxes. Motion made by Rep. Holbrook and seconded by Rep. Flanders to authorize the County Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of taxes an amount of $10,464,502.
 Motion voted in the affirmative unanimously.

5. Motion by Rep. Thomas and seconded by Rep to authorize the County Departments to expend up to 25% of the Year 2001 appropriation until the Year 2002 county budget is finally adopted.

6. In depth presentation of the 2002 budget by the Chairman, Commissioner Mark Thurston. Highlights included:

 a. It was noted that SB 409 still has not been fully implemented so the NH counties have not seen any positive effect to date. As a matter of fact, the reclassifying of acuity rates without intermediate levels of care has negatively impacted nursing homes. (SB 409 will sunset in 2003). To date there are still no 541 rules for SB 409. Belknap County has 235 Belknap County residents in nursing home or Home and Community Based Care. 95 of these are at the County Home.

b. The County is proposing moving the revenue collection for Mutual Fire Aid Association to the towns and not funneling through the County budget. This will be discussed further in subcommittee and at the Budget Hearing in 2002.
c. There is an amount in the budget to deal with the replacement of the second boiler. The first one failed in 2001 and it is felt the second one will be shortly in need of replacement.
d. Rep. Rosen noted that we seem to be in constant need of roof repairs and hopes the most recent need will be the last for a while.

7. Rep. Fran Wendelboe noted that the LSR regarding the ball fields (LSR 2393) is ready and if anyone wants to sign on, they are invited to do so within the next two to three days.

Motion by Rep. Thomas to adjourn the meeting as the business has been completed. Seconded by Rep. Nedeau. The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Rep. Alida I. Millham,
Clerk

Belknap County Commissioners

As we look back on the year 2001, we do so with a heavy heart. Early on, the County was faced with the passing of Norman Marsh, a former Commissioner with 20 years service to Belknap County and to whom this annual report is dedicated. Norm will long be remembered for his untiring efforts in the political arena and for his hearty laugh.

In the early spring, cancer took the life of Marie Gandolfi, who served Belknap County as a long term care coordinator for the preceding four years. Marie, a truly fine person, was an inspiration to all with whom she came in contact.

Early autumn brought with it a motor vehicle accident that claimed the life of Tracy Beauchemin, a 15 year veteran of the Sheriff's Department and supervisor of Communications. She, too, an inspiration to all.

Then came the events of 9/11 that deeply saddened and shocked the world. Saddened for the lives claimed in this terrible tragedy and for those loved ones who will forever bare the grief and shocked at the thought of this great country being violated in such a manner.

Each of these tragedies has touched the hearts of many but as we have heard so many times, life does go on.

Robert Chase, our Nursing Home Administrator for 10 years, resigned in May to take the position of Administrator of the Merrimack Nursing Home. Our very best to Bob and a special thank you for your dedicated service to Belknap County. The County was extremely pleased to acquire the services of Karen Painter to fill the position of Nursing Home Administrator. Karen comes to us with 20 + years experience in nursing, during which time she earned an MA degree in Business Administration. Karen very quickly assimilated into her new position and we are extremely pleased.

The dedication of the former Batchelder Street School, an exercise in affordable housing, came to fruition as a result of the partnering of City of Laconia, Laconia Area Community Land Trust and Belknap County in the acquisition of a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $500,000.00.

Belknap County has long prided itself in being innovative and in the forefront when it comes to community and the promotion of ideas and programs that benefit its citizens. In cooperation with our County Delegation, the Commissioners created a new department with the advent of the Restorative Justice Program. Again, the first of its kind in New Hampshire, restorative justice embodies the concept of accountability of the youthful offender and a process whereby the victim and the community as well as the offender are made whole.

Your County Commissioners had the opportunity to visit Deschutes County Oregon to view first hand the nationally recognized restorative justice concept as well as their County Commission on Children and Families. The trip was made possible by the Belknap County Juvenile Justice Initiative and the Annette E. Schmidt Trust. The three day event was informative and extremely gratifying to view first hand the cooperative effort between Deschutes and Belknap County.

Philip 'Bud' Daigneault was elected to the Board of Commissioners for his first term commencing January 1st. A long time employee of Belknap County, Bud now has the opportunity to view the day to day operations from a completely new perspective!

The Commissioners are extremely proud of Belknap County and its contribution to local government. We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to its department heads and their staff as well as the continued commitment by our County Delegation to the principles of sound and cost effective government.

Respectfully,
Mark E. Thurston, Chairman
Christopher D. Boothby, Vice Chair
Philip 'Bud' Daigneault, Clerk
Belknap County Commissioners

Chief Administrative & Finance Officer

To The Honorable Belknap County Commissioners:

I respectfully submit the Administrative and Finance report for the year ending December 31, 2001.

It is my pleasure to report that Belknap County is in sound financial shape. We've managed efficient operations due primarily through cost savings in budgets which produced an unencumbered fund balance of approximately $1.2 million, on top of last year's $1.2 million. We utilized $1.0 million in surplus funds in 2001 to reduce the County tax rate and offset borrowing in the ensuing year. Credit should be given to the department heads that accomplished this through their diligence in exercising fiscal responsibility, maximizing revenue opportunities, careful budgeting, and administrative oversight. The bulk of the unexpended expenditures came from the Human Services Department, Corrections, and Nursing Home. An additional $90,000 was saved through careful cash management and delaying the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) sale. Almost every department exceeded revenue projections and most notably the Registry of Deeds by over $200,000, Human Services by $70,000, Sheriff's fees by $24,000, prisoner telephone income by $46,000, and an unanticipated return of workers compensation premium.

The Commissioners and I spent a great deal of time and effort addressing repair and maintenance issues. The more notable maintenance efforts included the second phase of the Court House Sprinkler System project; the replacement of the 20-year-old boiler in the Nursing Home; a new Server for the Court House; Deeds Restoration project; replacement of the Sheriff's 24 hour Dictaphone; and a new cruiser for the Sheriff's Department.

The Finance office successfully converted to a new, less labor-intensive payroll and fund accounting system. Our next big initiative, scheduled for mid February 2002, is to set up a true direct deposit for all county employees.

The implementation of a statewide property tax continues to create a good deal of anxiety. The state continued to grapple with how to pay for an

adequate education and unfortunately, the counties were pulled into the mess. We explored a number of options to meet cash needs, including private placements of short-term notes. We ended up getting a short-term note with Citizens Bank through a private lender with an unqualified opinion and set up a line of credit with the bank. Now that everything has stabilized, we are off the Moody's "watch list" and continue to maintain a strong credit rating of A3. Please note that all accounts are insured and collateralized.

The County was successful in obtaining over $340,000 in Proportional Share Payments to offset the additional costs incurred by the County taxpayer. These funds have been instrumental in financing the nursing home deficits caused by inadequate Medicaid rates and we will continue to lobby our Congressional Delegation to preserve this method of compensation.

The Sheriff's Department Collective Bargaining Agreement expired in December 2001. We've been in negotiations over the last several months and are in the final stages of a tentative agreement.

Gunstock Recreational Area had a record ski season and was able to produce the annual $150,000 payment plus an additional $118,000. The County Convention entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in May 2000 whereby the County assumes the majority of Gunstocks' bonded debt. This allows the recreation area to concentrate on infrastructure and capital improvements without carrying the huge debt burden. They are not however authorized to enter into any new debt without a 2/3's majority vote by the County Convention. Any new notes or bonds must be paid through the operating receipts of Gunstock.

Two Community Development Block Grants (CDBG's) are in various stages of development. I anticipate drawing down over $15,000 in administrative support on these two projects. They are as follows:

> The first project in the early stages of development will provide $1,000,000 to Belknap County and Economic Development who will lend it to VUTEk, Inc., a manufacturer of super-wide high-resolution ink-jet printers. VUTEk will use the funds for the purchase of machinery and equipment at their new manufacturing facility in Meredith, NH creating over 50 new jobs.
>
> The second in the final stages of close out is for $500,000 to be used in a collaborative effort between the City of Laconia, the Laconia Community Land Trust and the County for low-income housing around the City of Laconia.

I am happy to report that Belknap County did very well at the Association of Counties Awards ceremony held at the Balsams in October. Wesley Colby received the Edna McKenna Public Service Award; Lieutenant Richard Grenier received the County Corrections Employee; Robert Corbin as the County Treasurer; Milton Christy as the County Nursing Home Employee; and Richard Batstone as the County Sheriff Employee.

A hearty welcome goes out to Karen Painter, the new Nursing Home Administrator, Denine Foulks, Director of Nursing, and Brian Loanes and John Egan and their newly formed department titled "Juvenile Restorative Justice."

Enclosed are the audited financial statements reflective of operations for the preceding year accompanied by the Commissioner's proposed budget for the calendar year 2002. Vachon, Clukay & Co., PC recently completed our Year 2001 audit with all funds and procedures in full compliance with generally accepted accounting practices.

As always, I would like to express my gratitude to all county employees. They continue to exhibit efficiency and professionalism in service to the county taxpayer. A special thank you to the Commissioners and County Convention for all their dedication and support. It's an honor and privilege to serve. A sincere thank you goes out to my staff (Marie and Angela) for their hard work and dedication.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy E. Cook, Chief
Administrative & Finance Officer

County of Belknap
Budget Report
December 31, 2001

Revenue	2001 Net Approp	2001 Prelim. Audit	2002 Proposed	2000/01 Gunstock Audited
Charges for Services				7,554,476
Program Initiatives	20,000	0	20,000	
Proshare Reserve	0	0	0	
Rent	224,850	231,275	230,786	
Citizens Council (New)	0	0	172,770	
County Attorney	53,800	58,289	55,373	
Interest	130,000	124,607	120,000	
Registry of Deeds	681,000	892,737	763,390	
Sheriff's Department	352,139	368,158	318,995	
Juvenile Restorative Justice (New)	150,000	49,220	148,000	
Department of Corrections	52,500	112,871	62,500	
Human Services	225,589	295,291	270,813	
Nursing Home	5,313,903	5,781,582	6,797,621	
Surplus/Carryforward	0	0	900,000	
Gunstock	268,000	267,948	150,000	
Miscellaneous/Outside Agencies	60,000	79,611	62,400	
Taxes - Cities & Towns	9,806,571	9,806,571	10,291,732	
Total Revenues	17,338,352	18,068,160	20,364,380	
Cost of Operations				3,986,025
Profit from Operations				3,568,451
Expenditures				
Commissioners	163,599	116,716	186,172	
Finance Office	205,554	196,990	206,420	
Citizens Council (New)	0	0	172,770	
County Attorney	402,135	393,629	412,039	
Register of Deeds	443,918	443,991	492,848	
Sheriff's Department	1,297,646	1,197,516	1,385,541	
Juvenile Restorative Justice (New)	150,000	42,014	148,000	
Medical Referee	26,536	27,472	18,000	
Maintenance	365,375	332,677	370,789	
Human Services	4,687,046	4,070,262	4,499,326	
Department of Corrections	1,867,345	1,703,267	1,948,367	
Gunstock	1,087,585	1,066,725	1,072,606	
Proshare Reserve	100,000	0	0	
BCNH Transfer of Funds	1,146,980	276,618	1,410,200	
Outside Agencies	624,121	614,019	656,684	
County Delegation	7,000	5,330	7,000	
OCU Debt-Principle	189,600	189,600	189,600	
OCU Debt/TAN-Interest	317,211	268,126	315,397	
Contingency/Carryforward	75,239	71,163	75,000	
Nursing Home	5,526,686	5,722,068	6,797,621	
General				1,251,396
Administrative				1,618,262
Total Expenditures	18,683,576	16,738,183	20,364,380	2,869,658
Net Income(Loss)				698,793

County of Belknap, New Hampshire
Combined Balance Sheet
All Fund Types & Account Groups
December 31, 2001

Assets	Govt/Fiduciary Fund Types			Proprietary	Account Groups		Totals	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Fiduciary Agency	Enterprise	Fixed Assets	Long-Term Debt	Primary Govt.	Gunstock (Audited)
Cash	$3,141,614	$4,344		$5,689			$3,151,647	$473,766
Investments	44,562						44,562	
Accounts receivable	193,557		29,309	73,140			296,006	38,153
Due from other govts				287,242			287,242	4,363,540
Due from other funds	449,414						449,414	
Inventory				31,218			31,218	65,048
Prepaid expenses								167,700
Long term assets/Accts. Rec.								
Restricted cash & invest.	687,867			37,445			725,312	
Property, plant & equip, net				6,051,491	$7,926,167		13,977,658	8,153,950
Construction in Progress								
Amt to be provided for retire. Of long-term oblig.						$5,222,238	5,222,238	
Total Assets	$4,517,014	$4,344	$29,309	$6,486,225	$7,926,167	$5,222,238	$24,185,297	$13,262,157
Liabilities & Equity								
Accounts payable	$201,386			$110,009			$311,395	$338,047
Accrued expenses	59,683		6,484	87,842			154,009	224,977
Retainage payable								
Due to other gov'ts	965,855						965,855	
Due to other funds		64	22,825	426,525			449,414	
Deferred revenues	67,547						67,547	204,589
Pay from restricted assets	687,867			37,445			725,312	
Compensated absences pay.	142,046			229,822		137,611	509,479	
Current portion of Long-Term Debt								
Gen obligation bonds & notes payable				4,880,000		1,552,200	6,432,200	5,758,824
Other long term obligations						3,529,000	3,529,000	
Capital lease payable				8,345		3,427	11,772	
Total Liabilities	2,124,384	64	29,309	5,779,988	0	5,222,238	13,155,983	6,526,437
Fund Equity								
Invest in fixed assets					7,926,167		7,926,167	
Invest in component unit								8,402,390
Contributed capital				701,735			701,735	1,035,556
Retained earnings				4,502			4,502	-2,702,226
Fund Balances:								
Unreserved:								
Designated-Subseq. Yrs	11,536		0				11,536	
Undesignated	2,381,094	4,280					2,385,374	
Total Fund Equity	$2,392,630	$4,280	$0	$706,237	$7,926,167	$0	$11,029,314	$6,735,720
Total Liab & Equity	$4,517,014	$4,344	$29,309	$6,486,225	$7,926,167	$5,222,238	$24,185,297	$13,262,157

2001 General Fixed Assets

excel:Genfa.xls

	Balances January 1	Additions	Reclass	Deletions	Balances December 31
Land and Improvements	139,528.55	0.00	0	0.00	139,528.55
Buildings and Improvements	6,370,552.35	97,415.34	0	0.00	6,467,967.69
Machinery and Equipment	1,156,961.20	148,904.06	12,805.00	0.00	1,305,865.26
Less:					
Const. In Progress	12,805.00	0.00	-12,805.00	0.00	0.00
Depreciation	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Totals	**7,679,847.10**	**246,319.40**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**7,913,361.50**

Proprietary Fixed Assets

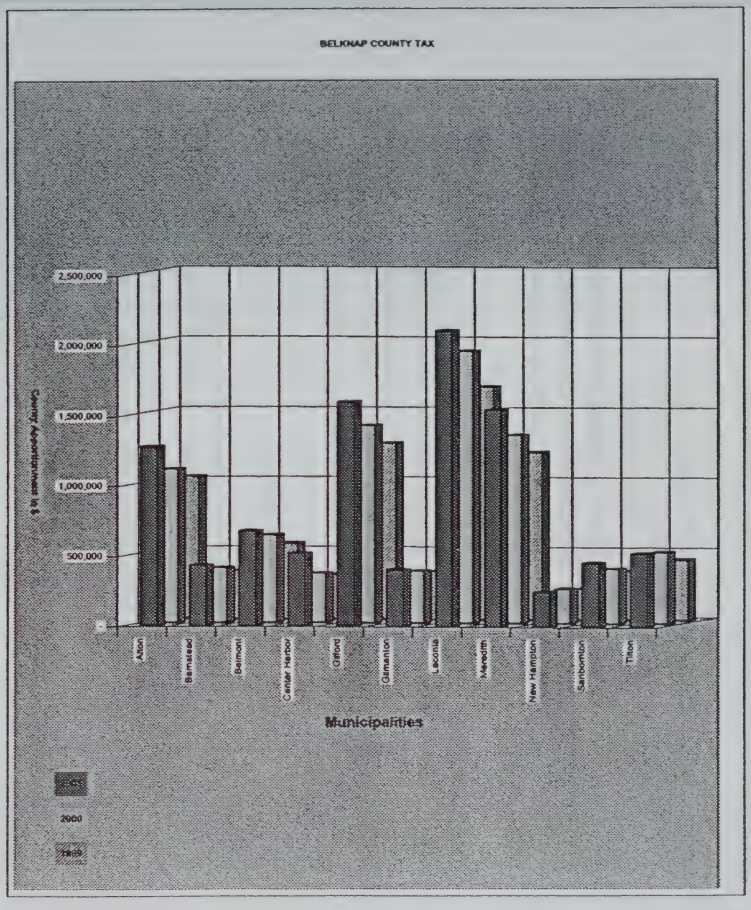
	Nursing Home Fund	Additions	Reclass	Deletions	Balances December 31
Land and Improvements	44,811.00	4,663.20	0	0.00	49,474.20
Buildings and Improvements	7,358,208.55	85,880.54	0	0.00	7,444,089.09
Roads and Parking	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
Machinery & Equip.	774,542.37	43,790.95	0	0.00	818,333.32
Office Equipment	5,750.00	0.00	825.45	0.00	6,575.45
Vehicles	8,157.48	0.00	0	0.00	8,157.48
Construction in Prog.	825.45	0.00	-825.45	0.00	0.00
Total	**8,192,294.85**	**134,334.69**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**8,326,629.54**
Less: Accum Depreciation	-2,015,557.50	-242,356.29	0.00	0.74	-2,257,913.05
Net Book Value	**6,176,737.35**	**-108,021.60**	**0.00**	**0.74**	**6,068,716.49**

Belknap County

[redacted]	% Proportion To County Tax	Apportionment of County Budget
Alton	13.0622448%	1,280,958
Barnstead	4.3892830%	430,438
Belmont	6.9419412%	680,766
Center Harbor	5.2952575%	519,283
Gilford	16.3407741%	1,602,470
Gilmanton	4.1034381%	402,407
Laconia	21.5450183%	2,112,828
Meredith	15.7738849%	1,546,877
New Hampton	2.5184336%	246,972
Sanbornton	4.6638533%	457,364
Tilton	5.3658711%	526,208.00
TOTALS	100.0000000%	9,806,571

2000		
Alton	12.6163706%	1,094,763
Barnstead	4.4946196%	390,013
Belmont	7.2266884%	627,083
Center Harbor	4.0526329%	351,660
Gilford	16.2504120%	1,410,100
Gilmanton	4.2681764%	370,363
Laconia	22.3918621%	1,943,013
Meredith	15.4863395%	1,343,799
New Hampton	2.8276772%	245,367
Sanbornton	4.4871533%	389,365
Tilton	5.8980681%	511,794.00
TOTALS	100.0000001%	8,677,320

[redacted]		
Alton	13.2345752%	1,018,739
Barnstead	4.4852956%	345,258
Belmont	7.0531544%	542,921
Center Harbor	4.1217551%	317,274
Gilford	16.3597210%	1,259,299
Gilmanton	4.4408502%	341,837
Laconia	21.6036807%	1,662,955
Meredith	15.5781237%	1,199,135
New Hampton	2.9219200%	224,916
Sanbornton	4.5523915%	350,423
Tilton	5.6485327%	434,799.00
TOTALS	100.000000%	7,697,556



Belknap County Attorney

To the Honorable Commissioners and Delegation of Belknap County:

The office currently has 299 open cases pending. In 2001 the County Attorneys Office opened 379 new files and reopened 130 closed files to litigate post trail motions, habeas corpus petitions, probation violations and the like. Added to this litigation, the staff handled innumerable inquiries from law enforcement and assisted in investigations. The office also rendered assistance in several complex district court cases as well as responded to public inquiries.

The attorneys in the office took 42 criminal charges before petit juries in 2001. This involves extensive preparation with investigators and civilian witnesses/victims beforehand and during the trials. It also frequently involves litigating issues pretrial. Some of these pretrial hearings themselves take days, with a number of witnesses. Even the simplest felony trial is likely to take two days and it is not uncommon for more complex cases to last a week or more, exclusive of pretrial proceedings.

For grand jury presentation, approximately 451 criminal charges were reviewed. Out of those, 372 items were actually presented to the grand jury, and 362 indictments, 2 waiver of indictment, and 4 Grand Jury Subpoenas were returned by the nine sitting grand juries as outlined in Appendix "A". The office also processed approximately 27 misdemeanor information's and complaints.

This office lends expertise 24 hours a day to law enforcement agencies across the county, including advice on search warrants, ongoing investigations, charging decisions, untimely deaths and developments in the area of criminal law. The office is involved in many cases from inception up through arrest and court presentation to post trial hearings, some of which resurrect cases years after they appear to be closed as noted above. These matters include probation violations, petitions to suspend sentences, requests to set aside verdicts, or other post-trial issues.

At times it has been necessary to lend assistance to police with actual appearances in district court. More and more frequently police agencies are grappling with complicated legal matters on which they need legal assistance. Our felony caseload is not such that we can do this with any frequency. We do sponsor training programs throughout the year for law enforcement. Child protective workers have also attended our training programs.

The Victim/Witness coordinator assists victims and witnesses from the pre-indictment stages of a case, through trial and beyond. In addition to keeping victims apprised of the process, the coordinator assists victims with compensation claims and notifications of parole, probation or other post-trial hearings. The program has endeavored to foster better communications between victims and other criminal justice agencies impacting on them. In the year 2001, compensation in the amount of $31,301 was awarded to victims of crimes in our county by the state Victim Compensation Fund.

Respectfully submitted
Lauren J. Noether
County Attorney

APPENDIX A

CASE TYPE	NO. OF CHARGES
Assault	23
Breaches of the Peace	1
Burglary	20
Contempt of Bail	5
Criminal Mischief	6
Domestic Violence	5
Drug Offenses	19
Falsification	1
Felon in Possession	6
Fraud	21
Habitual Offender	14
Interference with Freedom	6
Liability for Another	8
Motor Vehicle Offenses	20
Negligent Homicide	1
Obstructing Government Operations	5
Robbery	13
Sexual Assault	153
Theft	35

Belknap County Department of Corrections

To The Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

A total of 2377 persons were detained in our facility in 2001. This is the highest number of persons ever detained in the facility and represents an increase of 123 persons over 2000, and 707 persons over 1999. It also continues a long upward trend in the number of bookings the jail processes over the last decade.

A total of 1,301 persons were detained in the facility for intoxication in 2001. This represents a slight decrease from 2000's high of 1338. Intoxication still represents the largest number of persons detained at the jail and is the most problematic population that we deal with. The Jail Superintendents through out the state all have concerns about this population and have supported legislation to modify the statue for intoxication.

Our female population has increased as well from 214 in 1998, to 202 in 1999, to 225 in 2000 to 282 in 2001. The female population around the state has been growing faster then any other category, and has prompted discussions by many of the counties, about how to deal with the statewide lack of beds for women.

The under 18-year-old population represented 16 individuals for 2001 down slightly from 18 in 2000. The average age of our population was the same as last year at 33.

The average daily population was up slightly from 42 in 2000 to 52 in 2001. In 1996 the average daily population was 50, in 1997 54, in 1998 64, and in 1999 63. It appears that the jail is once again on an upward cycle.

During the 78th Motorcycle Week, we detained 224 individuals. There were 203 individuals brought in for intoxication, with a total of 265 charges.

The highest number of bookings occurred between 7pm Saturday, June 16, 2001 through 7am Sunday, June 17, 2001 for a total of 72.

Staff remained very professional throughout the week and to their credit, there were no incidents in which Pepper Spray was used. There were no staff or detainee injures, and no detainee was restrained or transported to the hospital.

We received assistance from the National Guard who provided us with medical assistance, drug detection equipment and personnel, Hanna, the drug sniffing dog, transport vehicles, and tents and cots for emergencies, Lakes Region Hospital who provided us with medical personnel.

We also received assistance in housing our inmates from Hillsboro, Rockingham, Merrimack, and Grafton Counties, and The State Prison for Woman. In addition, Merrimack County also provided us backup in the event of an emergency.

The following is total bookings by year for all the years available for comparison purposes.

Year	Number of Bookings
1990	NA
1991	81
1992	NA
1993	122
1994	131
1995	207
1996	268
1997	270
1998	415
1999	176
2000	239
2001	224

This was my second year being involved in Motorcycle Week. I was impressed with the professionalism of the staff, which after long hours of trying to reason with intoxicated and angry individuals still managed to remain calm and composed.

I noticed some changes this year as apposed to last. We spent more time trying to arrange for the housing of our inmates, trying to prevent new inmates from arriving at the last minute, and we ended up using more counties to house inmates then we have in the past.

Last year we were able to house all of our inmates in Hillsboro, Rockingham, and The New Hampshire State Prison for Women. This year in addition we had to use Grafton and Merrimack. We also spent more time filing motions to either amend or stay sentences so they wouldn't conflict with our schedule.

It should also be noted that the detainees were less hostile and offensive then in the past, and that there was less of a concentration of bookings around the weekend and more spread out during the whole week.

Once again, the staff were tremendous. They worked long hours, had their days off changed, or went without any time off at all. They once again proved themselves a credit to their profession, and Belknap County.

Thus coming to the close of my second year working for Belknap County I would like to express my thanks to all the county personnel that have allowed me to be part of their family. I also wish to thank the County Commissioners as well as Belknap Legislative Delegation for their assistance and support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph Panarello
Superintendent

Year 2001 Booking stats by town	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Alton	1	1	1	5	4	9	2	3	4	10	6	4	50
Barnstead	3		4		2	2	3	3	2	5	1	6	31
Belk. Cnty. Sheriff's Dept.	17	17	12	16	21	27	25	12	9	22	10	29	217
Belmont	8	7	5	11	4	10	7	7	17	9	8	16	109
Center Harbor			1			5	3			3	8		20
Fish & Game		2		1									3
Gilford	16	20	17	10	11	26	45	24	16	10	6	6	207
Gilmanton	1	3	11	1		3	2	6	4	3	3		37
Laconia	88	61	66	94	100	244	88	88	85	74	53	49	1090
Liquor Commission						7							7
US Marshal Service				1	1	1		2	2	4	1		12
Meredith	14	18	28	35	25	29	12	20	32	20	25	8	266
Marine Patrol						19		2					21
New Hampton	1				6	5	4	13		3	4		36
NH Probation & Parole	7	2	1		2	7	2		2	4		3	30
NH State Police	2	4	1	9	5	11	5		1		4	1	43
Other	1	2	4		3	5	3	2	1				21
Sanbornton	2			1		1	8	5	6	6	3	1	33
Tilton	17	5	14	7	15	15	14	14	13	9	16	5	144
Totals	178	142	165	191	199	426	223	201	194	182	148	128	**2377**

Year 2001 Intox stats by town	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Alton	1		1	2	2	5	1	2		4	1	2	21
Barnstead			2			1	2	2	2	3	1		13
Belknap County Sheriff's Dept.						17	3						20
Belmont	4	6	4	4	2	4	5	5	7	2	5	6	54
Center Harbor						3				1	4		8
Fish & Game		2											2
Gilford	12	14	5	5	4	18	38	21	10	7	6	2	142
Gilmanton		3	4	1			1	5	3	1	1		19
Laconia	25	31	39	58	68	170	56	60	51	43	37	29	667
Liquor Commission						3							3
Meredith	7	11	15	22	23	25	10	14	20	17	22	6	192
Marine Patrol						15		2					17
New Hampton	1				2	3	4	6		2	4		22
NH State Police		1	1	2	1	7	2		1		2	1	18
Sanbornton	1			1			6	4	5	2			19
Tilton	5	4	7	6	7	11	6	12	11	1	10	3	83
Other						1							1
Totals	56	72	78	101	109	283	134	133	110	83	93	49	1301

Belknap County Human Services

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

The following reports are submitted for the Belknap County Human Services Department for the year 2001, detailing by Town/City the number of clients served and the dollars expended in State mandated programs serving youth, elderly and disabled residents.

RSA 166 Aid to County Assisted Persons
County reimburses the State for 50% of the cost for Old Age Assistance and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled.

RSA 167-18f Local Medical Assistance Contribution
County reimburses the State $6.00 for each old age recipient and $23.00 for each disabled recipient.

Old Age Assistance 1/01-10/01
Figures are for a ten month billing period by the State as of 12/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	7	3,455.00
Barnstead	6	1,130.00
Belmont	15	743.00
Center Harbor	1	65.00
Gilford	3	1,356.00
Gilmanton	1	226.00
Laconia	45	18,663.00
Meredith	14	4,230.00
New Hampton		
Sanbornton		
Tilton	5	2,422.00
Total	**97**	**32,290.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year $38,748.

Aid to the Permanently & Totally Disabled 1/01-10/01
Figures are for a ten month billing period by the State as of 12/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	14	12,563.00
Barnstead	16	9,422.00
Belmont	32	19,891.00
Center Harbor	1	209.00
Gilford	20	12,144.00
Gilmanton	6	2,513.00
Laconia	158	100,502.00
Meredith	24	19,054.00
New Hampton	10	11,935.00
Sanbornton	7	5,863.00
Tilton	26	15,284.00
Total	**314**	**209,380.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year is $251,256.

RSA 167:18-b Reimbursement of Funds for Persons Eligible to Receive Nursing Home Services

County reimburses the State 25% for the cost of recipients of Nursing Home Care and those in alternative settings to placement in a Nursing Facility.

Intermediate Nursing Home Care 1/01-9/01

Figures are for an nine month billing period by the State as of 12/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	14	51,796.00
Barnstead	14	63,127.00
Belmont	30	157,007.00
Center Harbor	4	21,042.00
Gilford	31	176,431.00
Gilmanton	16	89,025.00
Laconia	108	610,223.00
Meredith	42	228,227.00
New Hampton	2	3,237.00
Sanbornton	5	25,898.00
Tilton	35	192,616.00
Total	**301**	**1,618,629.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year $2,228,000.

Home Care Community Based 1/01-10/01

Figures are for a ten month billing period by the State as of 12/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	5	3,805.00
Barnstead	9	11,562.00
Belmont	17	21,222.00
Center Harbor	1	3,513.00
Gilford	6	6,440.00
Gilmanton	2	439.00
Laconia	39	69,521.00
Meredith	11	14,197.00
New Hampton	6	5,854.00
Sanbornton	4	3,513.00
Tilton	9	6,294.00
Total	**109**	**146,360.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year $175,632.

Provider Payments 1/01-10/01

Figures are for a ten month billing period by the State as of 12/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	21	16,371.00
Barnstead	20	23,985.00
Belmont	43	39,595.00
Center Harbor	5	3,426.00
Gilford	38	25,508.00
Gilmanton	17	22,462.00
Laconia	158	140,485.00
Meredith	55	66,625.00

New Hampton	8	5,330.00
Sanbornton	9	7,234.00
Tilton	44	29,696.00
Total	**418**	**380,717.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year $456,861.

RSA 169-B Delinquent, 169-C Child Protection Act and 169-D Children in Need of Services

County reimburses the State up to 25% of the costs incurred for services to children and their families.

Care of Children 1/01-11/01

Figures reflect invoices processed by the County for the period 1/01-11/01

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	7	26,039.00
Barnstead	8	18,396.00
Belmont	27	100,155.00
Center Harbor	4	8,136.00
Gilford	22	43,875.00
Gilmanton	4	6,671.00
Laconia	164	456,735.00
Meredith	19	23,874.00
New Hampton	7	15,147.00
Sanbornton	3	5,008.00
Tilton	17	52,926.00
Total	**282**	**756,962.00**

Anticipated spending in this category for the year $869,414.

Under each juvenile statute listed above, the County is authorized to collect on behalf of the State, payments from persons chargeable by law for the minors support.

Parental Reimbursement collected 1/01-12/31/01 was $89,084.

Incentive Funds received annually since 1986 from the Division of Children, Youth and Families, for the purpose of encouraging the development of community based diversion and alternative disposition programs, were awarded to the following:

The Appalachian Mountain Teen Project/Riverland Youth Initiative
Teen Intervention of Memorial Middle School
Familystrength, Structured Teen Accountability and Responsibility
Community Health & Hospice, Care Management of Young Families
Youth Assistance Program of Northfield, Tilton & Sanbornton
Youth Services Bureau, Court Diversion & UPSWING Programs
GIRLS, INC.
The Teen Center
The Upstream Parenting Series
The Circle Program
Restorative Justice
The TIME Program of Winnisquam Regional Middle School
Alternative to Violence Program

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the support of my staff and to thank the Belknap County Delegation as well as the Commissioners, for their cooperation and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
CAROL N. SCHONFELD
Human Services Administrator

Maintenance Department

The year 2001 was a very busy year for Maintenance. The second phase of the sprinkler system was completed on the first floor of the Belknap County Courthouse from Probate Court to the County Attorney's offices.

With the generosity of Joe Panarello, Jail Superintendent for allowing his maintenance man, Mr. Dick Glidden to assist us, we were able to remove all the old ceilings where needed. After hiring Gouveia and Son Company to install a new dropped ceiling, my own staff and I removed and rewired new "electronic" fluorescent lighting, which will save tremendously on the electric light bill for the County. My men also managed to maintain the custodial work that is mandatory. By the end of 2002, the County Courthouse will be in total federal compliance with a new fire/smoke alarm system and a complete sprinkler system. Maintenance is also in the process of installing a stairway to the cellar and building a new room for the Registry of Deeds to store the very valuable antique records. This has taken some time as the steam pipes had to be removed, relocated and rebuilt, an insulated wall built and over 500 feet of electrical and phone wires no longer needed had to be traced and removed, new ceiling installed and new wiring and lighting installed by us. A new door and frame assembled, built and installed and all steel shelving will be relocated and reassembled.

Along with my two crewmen keeping up with the daily custodial work and also working maintenance, my office has moved into the 21-st century. I was given one of the older computers and now have direct e-mail with all other departments. The employee entrance security locks are programmed into the computer. I am currently working on feeding information into a maintenance program listing preventative maintenance as well as all the information pertaining to parts and accessibility.

I wish to thank the Commissioners for their trust in our abilities, and a special thanks again this year for the faith and confidence the delegation has shown.

Respectfully submitted,
D. William Jenkins
Maintenance Superintendent

Belknap County Nursing Home

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

The year 2001 has been a year of transition for Belknap County Nursing Home. In April, Mr. Robert Chase who had been the Administrator since 1990, and Mrs. Lori Brown, Director of Nursing resigned to accept positions at Merrimack County Nursing Home. Mrs. Kathy Lord, Assistant Director of Nurses, and former Director of Nursing for 20 years' retired.

I joined the staff in April, Mrs. Denine Foulks who has been on staff since March of 2000, accepted the Director of Nursing position, and Mrs. Catherine Coyne on staff since January 1985, accepted the Assistant Director of Nurses position.

High demand for our services continues. The home has maintained a 98.8% occupancy rate and continues to have an active waiting list. A total of 25 residents either expired or were discharged with a corresponding number of admissions.

In keeping with our mission, we seek to provide services to the citizens of Belknap County in need of long term care services that have limited options due to a lack of financial resources. The vast majority of our resident care, 91%, is Medicaid funded.

Staffing and Funding continue as top issues faced not only by this home but by Long Term Care Industry in general.

Staffing

There is a need to address the shortage of caregivers in long term care settings nationwide. Nearly every long-term care setting has vacancies they are unable to fill. The shortage includes registered and licensed practical nurses, therapists, administrators and other providers. Although we have some staffing issues, we continue to be fortunate in being able to recruit for vacancies. We have had to use outside staffing agencies to supplement our Licensed Nurse and Licensed Nurse Assistant staffing, however this use has been sporadic.

Funding

Making budgets stretch to cover more people and more services, but with the same
or even smaller reimbursement rates continue to be a major issue for long term care facilities. Over the last year we have seen our Medicaid rate decrease, widening the gap between our cost and reimbursement. Continuing the provision of quality services to our residents while containing the cost of existing our programs in the face of inflationary pressures so as not to adversely affect the taxpayers of our county has been and continues to be a major challenge.

The Long Term Care System

For all of us in the health care industry, the future is filled with tough decisions and challenges.
In June 1999, the Supreme Court ruled in L.C. & E.W. vs. Olmstead that it is a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act for states to discriminate against people with disabilities by providing services in institutions when the individual could be served more appropriately in a community-based setting.

States are required to provide community-based services for people with disabilities if treatment professionals determine that it is appropriate, the affected individuals do not object to such placement and the state has the available resources to provide community-based services.
We need to be creative and find cost effective ways of responding to the growing number of these and all people in need of LTC services.
In order to be effective in meeting needs, we have to continue developing home and community-based service options, particularly for people in low and middle-income brackets, and coordinate and streamline services for LTC populations, regardless of age or categorical disability. Through our involvement in industry and state committees, we will support endeavors to expand community-based options.

Enhancing consumer choice and information is also important. Meeting people and letting them know about their care options and community supports is an essential part of maximizing independence and decreasing the need for institutionalized care. This County believes in the benefits of the Long Term Care Counselor program and continues, to support the position, which provides assessment, counseling about care options and education to our citizens.

Our home and our residents are active and involved in the Community. Our staff participates on community committees, including Service Link, the Long Term Care Collaborative Council, and the Professional Assessment Committee for Congregate Housing Services. We participate in intergenerational programs such as Delta Kappa Gamma's "Bridging the Generation Gap". These programs bring our children and seniors together in fun and friendship providing many opportunities for learning and enhancing the quality of each generation's life.

We have provided meeting space for agencies that provide services to our Citizens, such as Service Link, Alzheimer's Association's caregiver training program, The Economic Development Program, 4H, to name a few.

Through our nursing and rehabilitation departments and in collaboration with the State of New Hampshire and Tufts University, we have developed and will begin a senior fitness program that we will offer to our residents, their families and community seniors.

This report concludes a year of change and challenge. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our hard working and dedicated staff that through all of the changes has remained consistent in their dedication to our residents and the provision of high quality care. Belknap County Nursing Home offers a beautiful, caring and safe environment because of our caring and professional staff.

In closing, I would also like to thank the Commission, County Delegation, residents, families and friends who have been so supportive of the Belknap County Nursing Home. It is a pleasure being part of such a wonderful and caring team.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen J. Painter
Nursing Home Administrator

Belknap County Registry Of Deeds

To the Honorable Commissioners:

The past year in the Registry of Deeds office was a year that surpassed all expectations relative to volume of business, as well as revenue for the County.

Realtors reported having very little inventory and, as a result, prices were reaching peak . Extremely low interest rates were another factor that led to a tremendous resurgence of re-financing.

In the wake of the catastrophe of September 11, 2001, there has been much speculation and discussion regarding the status of the real estate market. To this end, I respectfully submit the following figures, relative to the activity in the Registry of Deeds office:

Number of documents recorded	20,798	+20%
Special assessment equipment account	$40,392.00	+21%
Revenue derived from copies/faxing	$104,875.33	+ 4%
Total transfer taxes dispenses	$4,999,129.00	- 4%
4% Commission from transfer tax	$199,965.16	- 4%
Total revenue for the year 2001	**$843,648.61**	**+24%**

In examining the above statistics, I found it most interesting that exactly a decade ago, the Deeds office revenue was only $400,942.48 and the number of documents recorded was 13,970. Our revenue has more than doubled and our document count has increased by 49% and yet the office continues to function with the exact same number of staff as in 1991. That is primarily due to the outstanding technology that we have in the Deeds office and an incredible staff, who continually rise to the challenge of handling tremendous increases in business.

We have reached our 10- year milestone in the storage of documents on optical disk. Our in-house project of converting 148 plan books, that have paper plans glued to pages, continues. We are converting the microfilm aperture cards of the above-mentioned books and converting them to optical disk. I cannot say enough of my optical disk technician on this project, Germaine Glidden, who has worked tirelessly at this very tedious task. As of this date, 91 plan books have been completed, and we anticipate the project will be completed in 2002.

The following is a breakdown of document recordings by City/Town for the year 2001, as well as comparison figures for 2000 & 1999.

Town	2001	2000	1999
Alton	2000	1700	1776
Barnstead	1422	1151	1158
Belmont	1729	1473	1665
Center Harbor	364	279	362
Gilford	2682	2112	2335
Gilmanton	1121	872	944
Laconia	4312	3471	3869
Meredith	1793	1787	2061
New Hampton	553	444	477
Sanbornton	889	748	902
Tilton	788	610	699
***Belknap	3095	2688	3050

***Represents writ of attachments and other related documents that only give" Belknap" as the location.

My deepest appreciation to the members of the Delegation and County Commissioners, for their continued support and cooperation.

In closing, a special "Thank You" goes to my outstanding staff, which continues to do an exceptional job in meeting the every-day challenges and changes in the records retention industry. The success of this department must be attributed to this dedicated, well-trained group of professionals. I deeply appreciate their continued support and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel M. Normandin
Registrar of Deeds

Belknap County Sheriff's Department

The members of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department are involved with many diverse law enforcement functions. The Deputies all have specific assignments within the Department, but they are all cross-trained to assist other Deputies, as well as other federal, state, county and local law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties to ensure public safety within Belknap County.

Three Deputies retired from the Department in 2001: Sergeant Robert Dupuis, Deputy Vincent Kondrotas and Deputy Carol Skerry. We were fortunate to have their services through the years.

The new Deputies that were hired in 2001 are experienced law enforcement officers that have come from other local departments. We welcome the following new Deputies to our force: Denise Miller, David Perkins and William Robarge.

It is with deep sadness that we report Communications Supervisor Tracy Beauchemin passed away suddenly during the year. Her character, quality and professionalism are truly missed by all who had the opportunity to know and work with her.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Investigations Division of the Sheriff's Department is assigned to investigate any crimes that occur on county property as well as assisting law enforcement agencies within the county in conducting various criminal investigations. Deputies conduct internal affairs investigations for other agencies along with investigations assigned at the request of the County Attorney.

The polygraph examiners assigned to this division conducted 73 examinations during 2001, which included specific criminal investigation examinations and employment security clearance examinations for newly hired sworn and non-sworn employees of the local law enforcement agencies.

PRISONER TRANSPORTS AND ARRESTS

The Department did 1,141 transports to and from jails all over the state, State Prison, New Hampshire State Hospital, local and out-of-town doctors and hospitals, motor vehicle hearings, funerals, as well as the transportation of juveniles to halfway houses, the Youth Development Center, and secure facilities within and out of state. The Sheriff's Department returned a number of fugitives from other states to Belknap County.

There have been 457 arrests on both criminal and civil warrants issued by the District and Superior courts. In addition, the courts recalled 113 warrants after deputies of the department contacted the individuals who were wanted on civil bench warrants.

JUVENILE SERVICES

The Juvenile Services Division handled 168 cases during the year. The deputies assigned to this division handle court cases for requesting towns in the County as well as investigating offenses involving juveniles. The deputies prepare and prosecute the cases in the Laconia and Franklin District Courts for a number of towns in Belknap County. This includes interviewing victims and witnesses in preparation for trial and conducting follow-up investigations for these cases.

CIVIL PROCESS

We have collected $86,217.94 in revenue from the service of 3,841 writs in towns throughout the county.

COMMUNICATIONS

The communications center is in operation around the clock 365 days a year. Communication specialists of the department handle a wide range of calls from the public. Some of these calls are dealing with life or death situations. The communication specialists are also responsible for receiving and transmitting various information to patrol officers and local police departments. Numerous messages from the SPOTS computer system, received and dispatched, which include N.C.I.C. (National Crime Information Computer), license checks, motor vehicle listings and criminal records.

The communications center supplied nine towns in Belknap County with dispatch services at a cost equaling approximately 28% of what it would cost for those towns to totally handle their own communications center on an individual basis. In addition to the towns, the communications center takes telephone calls and dispatches for the local Fish and Game Officers, the local Liquor Inspectors, the Medical Examiner, as well as the County Attorney's Office.

The LAWNET statewide communications project entered its first stage of operation this year with the installation of new cruiser radios. The communications center upgrade at our facility has also begun and should be completed in the first quarter of 2002. This project will greatly enhance the communication capabilities and safety of the officers throughout the County.

A new Dictaphone telephone and radio recording unit was purchased and installed. This state-of-the-art equipment replaced the old recording device that had been in service for over fourteen years.

COURT SECURITY

Deputies assigned to Court Security provide security to the judges and all visitors of the Superior Court. These deputies also occasionally assist the District Court in high security risk situations. Deputies provide security during jury views at various locations for criminal and civil trials.

The Sheriff's Department has the responsibility of prisoner control at the Laconia District Court. A deputy is assigned to the District Court to take custody of prisoners, which allows local police officers to assume their patrol shifts, rather than guarding the prisoners.

TRIAD

The Belknap County Sheriff's Department is one of the county law enforcement agencies to sign a Triad Cooperative Agreement. Triad is a national program developed cooperatively by the National Sheriffs' Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the

American Association of Retired Persons as a means to reduce victimization among our senior population. Signers of the original agreement include Belknap County Sheriff's Department, the American Association of Retired Persons, the Office of Belknap County Attorney, Lakes Region General Hospital, Laconia Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and the Laconia Office of the Division of Elderly and Adult Services. These groups and organizations agree that the county's older population has special needs with respect to victimization and fear of crime, perceived or actual loss, and the sense of being alone and unprotected, and that by working together they can meet these needs.

MOTORCYCLE WEEK

The Sheriff's Department plays a significant law enforcement role in the annual Motorcycle Week activities. Deputies are involved in providing patrol at the initial events held at Gunstock and throughout the week. The Belknap County Jail inmates are transported throughout the state by the Sheriff's Department at the beginning of this week to make space available in that facility and then returned at the conclusion of the week. The Department then provides 30 deputies to assist the local officers during the peak hours of activity. A number of Sheriff's Departments throughout the state provide Deputies to augment our staff in this function.

Once again, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Belknap County Commissioners, members of the County Delegation, as well as each and every police department in the county, for their continued cooperation. I have served the County proudly for 28 years and I am retiring as of February 28th to pursue a position in the private sector. It has been a pleasure working with everyone over the years and I appreciate all of the support that I have been given.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen G. Hodges
Sheriff

Belknap County Restorative Justice

The Belknap County Restorative Justice program is one of the results of the Belknap Juvenile Justice Initiative (a team of juvenile justice professionals, community citizens, and volunteers convened in the spring of 2000 by special Justice Willard Martin). The initiative found that Belknap County was fortunate to have a number of dedicated and talented professionals who work with juveniles throughout the counties eleven communities. In spite of these assets, there are numerous problems and barriers in the juvenile justice system in this County. Some of the problems are a lack of a local continuum of services and consequences for juveniles. Numerous gaps and lags in the juvenile justice system, a lack of a forum for victim input and interaction, a lack of understanding by the public of our juvenile justice system, an expensive yet ineffective system without local control and the lack of a uniform system of collecting, and collating statistics around juvenile crime.

The Belknap County Restorative Justice program is a new program that provides an alternative approach to dealing with non-violent juvenile crime in Belknap County. Our program will follow the Balanced and Restorative Justice Model that places Restoration of the victim, Community safety, Volunteer involvement, and the development of Offender competencies as major priorities. Our program will give the victim of crime a voice in what happens with the case, hold the offender accountable and involve the community to repair the harm done by crime. Our program will consult with the victim, the offender, and community volunteers to design an individualized contract, called a ***Good Citizens Contract.*** The contract will consist of restitution to the victim, restoration to the community through meaningful community service, and be designed to develop or enhance skills and competencies of the juvenile. The youth will complete the ***Good Citizens Contract*** under the supervision of the Belknap County Restorative Justice Program.

A Byrne Grant from the New Hampshire Attorney Generals office, County Incentive Funds and a donation From the Annette Schmidt fund, funds our program. The planning and implementation of the program began in July of 2001 and our first cases began in November of 2001.

I was hired as the Director of the program in July of 2001, and John Egan was hired as the Community Service Coordinator, and we are excited about this

new approach of working with victims, the community, and juveniles to repair the harm done by crime.

The Mission of the Belknap County Restorative Justice program is to build stronger communities in Belknap County by providing leadership in addressing the needs of crime victims, repairing the harm done by crime, and ensuring offender accountability

If anyone has any ideas for community service projects, or is interested in volunteering with the program please give us a call at the Sheriffs Office 527-5454.

I would like to thank Sheriff Hodges, Lt. Collis, Sgt Batstone, the entire sheriff's office and the County Commissioners for their support of the program.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian J. Loanes
Program Director

Belknap County Economic Development Council

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

Since the Council established its offices in July of 1992, we have been providing economic development and business assistance to municipalities and existing, new, and prospective businesses on a request basis without charge. As a regional development organization, we strive for a "climate" that understands what sustainable economic development is and how it works, as well as the importance of planning and maintaining the economic infrastructure and well-being of the community and a region. In our regional capacity, we have worked to unify the efforts of the region while ever mindful of our desire to preserve the uniqueness of our differences as communities.

The organization is structured as a non-profit 501(c)(6) regional development corporation with 75 Incorporators and an elected 16 person Board of Directors. There are three full time staff: Executive Director, Eliza Leadbeater; Program Coordinator, Kelly Bryer; and Administrative Assistant, Kevin Conway.

Most of the assistance provided in the past year focused on the needs of existing companies. Approximately 200 businesses, organizations, and individuals were provided with technical assistance that included business planning, counseling, financial/loan program information, assistance with site/facility identification, general regulatory information, and demographic data. Our capacity to provide additional in-depth business counseling to over 30 clients continued with assistance from two of our many partners, NH Small Business Development Center and the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

As in past years, we continue to partner with other service providers, organizations, state agencies, and businesses to develop better services and programs and to access new opportunities. This year, Citizens Bank responded to a proposal and provided an "officer on loan" to assist the Council in the management of our Revolving Loan Fund. Jennifer Boulanger, Assistant Vice President of the Community Lending Division, has helped us to better administer our loan program by providing underwriting assistance, and the timely review of all Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) policies and procedures. In return, the Council has provided insight into the importance of non-traditional financing in rural communities.

Highlights of 2001

° Initiated NHFuture.net, a web site which connects college and high school graduates with NH companies seeking entry level workers. Since May, when Governor Shaheen announced the initiative, over 195 companies have registered to post 539 positions and 439 job seekers have registered, with many posting classified advertisements. Since inception, there have been over 25,000 visitors to the site (approximately 2,275 per month). On average, there are 150 jobs in the database. The site also provides links to promote educational opportunities and additional training and is linked to a wide variety of resources useful to entry level workers. The purpose of the site is to reduce the "brain drain" of our youth and expose them to the career track opportunities that exist in New Hampshire. The project is underwritten by public and private grants with no costs to Belknap County; in fact, it affords us the opportunity to have a Program Coordinator on site to manage other programs and activities of the Council.

Within months of its launch, the site garnered awards from the National Association of Development Organization (2001 Innovation Award for Technology in Workforce Development) and the Northeast Economic Development Association (2001 Excellent in Literature and Promotion Award).

° Expanded *Insights into Industry: A Future in NH*, a program developed by the BCEDC and the Lakes Region office of NH Employment Security (NHES) and offered in our regional high schools since 1996. Begun as a local initiative, the program is now sponsored by the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) and NHES and is coordinated out of the BCEDC office. Through the program, high school seniors are made aware of career-track employment opportunities in the local area as well as throughout New Hampshire. *Insights* provides participating companies the potential of better employer/employee matching, while helping the state retain our young people as a vital part of the workforce. The program Continued in 2001, and 17 presentations were made at area high schools involving approximately 275 students. Two highlights of our local *Insights* activities included a tour by 25 Alton high school students to five regional businesses, and a six week workshop for local educators that involved visits to and presentations by six area companies.

The Council has secured funding to expand *Insights into Industry* over the next two years with new materials and activities, again with no cost for Belknap County.

°Facilitated several seminars and workshops for business. In partnership with the Lakes Region office of NHES, LRGHealthcare and the Greater Laconia/Weirs Beach Chamber of Commerce we organized a seminar entitled "Foreign Workers as Part of Your Workforce: An Alternative Option" which had 25 in attendance. Another 65 participated in the "Behavior in the Workplace" seminar.

The Council, in partnership with LRGHealthcare, US Department of Commerce, and the International Trade Center, offered an exporting series to five rural companies. Through videoconferencing technology courtesy of LRGHealthcare, companies learned about the exporting process and were linked with potential business partners through the London office of the US Department of Commerce.

With underwriting from NH DRED, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership assisted us in offering a course called "Lean Manufacturing 101" to 22 participants representing 11 companies.

°Continued to increase access to financing for local business. This year, we received six loan applications and were able to provide three loans totaling $590,000. To date, the RLF has made a total of 19 loans, which represents $2,456,310 in lending. At year end, it was recommended that Governor and Council approve another $1 million Community Development Block Grant to Belknap County. The Council will be the sub recipient of $975,000 of this grant, which they will lend to a Belknap County manufacturer for the purchase of equipment. The grant obligates us to oversee the creation of 50 new jobs.

°Launched the Belknap County Manufacturers' Roundtable so that area manufacturers can work collaboratively to address needs and concerns while also providing another venue for disseminating information about programs and resources.

°Continued to support the Yuletide at the Lakes program, which the Council originated in 2000 to coordinate and promote holiday events around the region to local and out-of-state visitors. Likewise, we continue providing organizational leadership to the Leadership Lakes Region program, which we helped start in 1996.

During the year, the Board spent considerable time revisiting the mission and goals of the organization and the result has been a new Strategic Plan to guide the work of the organization. Likewise, we have reviewed and updated all policies and procedures as they relate to our lending and the administration of the Belknap County RLF.

The staff continues to focus on the reuse of existing sites and facilities, and also the economic needs important to a vibrant region such as workforce development, childcare, affordable housing, and employee benefits. They continue to study the issues with the intent of developing services and programs and offering assistance. The Business Information Center, housing valuable data about our region and resource materials for business planning, continues to expand. As we close another year, they have been involved with Lakes Region Planning Commission in preparation of a new Tourism Profile. Another award the Council received was a Second Place Best Municipal Web Site for www.bcedc.org from NH.com. The new, easy to navigate site is packed with information about Belknap County and links to resources of value to both residents and businesses.

"Together we make a difference" truly crystallized the theme of another year. From the beginning, the dollars to provide our services and activities have always come from a mixture of public and private contributions, grants, and program income. Currently, the BCEDC has the support of over 100 members, from individuals to publicly traded corporations. Without securing the commitment of community investors, the Council would not be able to maintain existing services or develop new initiatives focused on the continued enhancement of the region's economic vitality. The membership investment program was designed to replace our traditional solicitation of donations.

Our greatest concern is that employment opportunities continue to dwindle in the current recession. In July 2000, Belknap County reached a record of 33,470 employed and although we continue to have one of the lowest County rates of unemployment, as of November 20001 there were 28,440 employed. Our concerns as a region are the availability of affordable housing, quality childcare, continuing educational and job training opportunities needed to attract and retain quality employees and employers. This is certainly the challenge ahead for the region and it will require the cooperative efforts of the public and private sector.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Belknap County Commissioners and Delegation. The quality of assistance the Council offers to Belknap County communities, businesses, and organizations could not be realized without your continuing support. This year we received $80,000 from the General Revenue Fund.

In 2002, the BCEDC will celebrate its tenth anniversary. The Board and Staff are committed to sustaining the momentum created by the intense efforts of the past years in balancing our quality of life while raising the standard of living for all our residents. Our commitment to enhancing the economic vitality of Belknap County is stronger than ever. Thank you for your support — together we are making a difference!

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Directors

Jim Dirubbo, *Chair*
Bill Beyer, *Vice-Chair*
Ken Canaway, *Secretary*
Don Hatt, *Treasurer*
Christopher Boothby, Director
Tom Clairmont, Director
Greg Dickinson, Director
Tony Ferruolo, Director
Mark Fraser, Director
David Haley, Director
Kimon Koulet, Director
Stewart Lamprey, Director
Joe LaPlante, Director
Don Morrissey, Director
Wayne Taylor, Director
John Thomas, Director
Eliza Leadbeater, Executive Director

www.bcedc.org www.NHFuture.net

Belknap County UNH Cooperative Extension

UNH Cooperative Extension (UNHCE) is the educational outreach arm of the University of New Hampshire in partnership with Belknap County. Numerous federal and state agencies are also partners is this cooperative effort. UNHCE offers educational programs to individuals, families, businesses, and public officials in the areas of family, youth, forestry, agriculture, and community development. In 2001, Belknap County UNHCE had over 6500 program contacts.

The **Agricultural Resources Program** provides information and education to commercial agriculture producers, citizens, and town officials in an effort to promote sustainable land use and good agricultural practices. Benefits to the community include locally grown produce and products available at farm stands and farmers' markets, improved land and water resources, as well as higher quality food crops, landscape plants, and turf.

Since joining the Belknap County Extension Staff in mid-June, Amy Ouellette, the Ag. Educator, has been in contact with most agriculture businesses. Through visits and phone calls, information has been provided to commercial growers concerning crop choices, plant disease and insect pest identification and control, harvest timing, soil pH and nutrient testing, cover cropping, and product marketing. Faced with northern New England's short growing season, high land value, and increasing numbers of franchise businesses, it is more important than ever for growers to adopt smart crop production practices in order for their businesses to remain viable. Belknap County is home to several innovative and successful farms, garden centers, and landscape companies.

Belknap County's *Master Gardener* group has been one of the State's most productive. Beginning in 2000, led by Ralph Winslow, former Ag. Educator, the Master Gardeners tackled an ambitious landscape renewal project at New Beginnings, a local domestic crisis center. Major improvements were made during the first year of the project. The 2001 group sought funding for and planted a meditation garden for the enjoyment of New Beginnings residents. The 2001 group has been working with the Ag. Educator to find meaningful projects for the 2002 Master Gardeners, which will provide service and education to community members.

Amy has given presentations to local garden clubs, presented lawn, fruit, and garden education in conjunction with the Belknap Conservation District, and promoted Extension at the Annual Farm Bureau Meeting. Amy volunteered at Extension's Info-line for two days, worked with the Sanbornton Agricultural Land Trust to begin the Sanbornton Farmers' Market, and worked with fellow extension agricultural educators on garden center critiques. Other work includes soil sampling, participation in food safety research, assisting a New Hampton couple in planning a commercial apple orchard, and assisting a part-time farmer from Gilmanton with plans to renovate an old orchard.

Agriculture related programs are in the planning stages now for the upcoming year. Some of the programs to be offered in Belknap County include fruit pruning demonstrations, a home gardening workshop, and a garden center employee training session. Research will include a vegetable/cover crop rotation project and a food safety project.

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The Belknap County **Forestry Program** promotes forest conservation through public outreach education in forest resources management, forest product utilization and marketing. In 2001, there were 1,522 program contacts with a diverse audience. This report highlights Forest Stewardship, Community Forestry, Economic Development, Conservation Education, and US Forest Service Special Projects.

Forest Stewardship: Two hundred and ninety-eight individual one-on-one contacts were made with landowners, loggers, maple producers, and town officials.

Woodland examinations were conducted on 4,308 acres. These one-on-one visits with landowners have proven over time to be the most effective method in motivating landowners to manage their lands. The federal Stewardship Incentive Program provided financial incentives to landowners to develop plans on 2,586 acres.

Fifty-nine assists were provided in the areas of federal income and estate taxes, state forestry laws on timber harvesting and timber trespass, town timber taxes, and current use assessment law to both landowners and town officials. The documented stewardship provision, with lower assessments for qualifying acreage, serves to promote forest conservation, management and Tree Farm certification. Of the county's 59 certified Tree Farms, 15 were re-inspected (required every 5 years) and re-certified. Tree Farm standards have been revised including the requirement for a management plan signed by a licensed forester.

Community Forestry: Sixty-four assists for insect and disease problems were made. Extension's Consumer Information and Education Center now handles the majority of these calls, referring calls to the county as needed. Diagnosis of insect and diseases problems combined with sound recommendations help to reduce pesticide abuse.

Assistance was provided to Extension's new statewide Community Conservation Assistance program to help communities to be more proactive with natural resource planning in towns. Belmont and Meredith are initiating natural resource inventories. Assistance to the Town of Meredith on timber harvesting issues continues, including the town-owned Hamlin and Carleton tracts. Gilford's Kimball Wildlife Forest completed a revised trail guide and interpretive signage for the Lockes Hill trails.

The City of Laconia has renewed its participation in the national *Tree City USA* program. Belknap County Government Day and Arbor Day was celebrated at the County Complex with all county agencies. This was a joint effort of the Laconia Parks Department, County Commissioners Office and Belknap County Extension. Barnstead also celebrated Arbor Day, held in conjunction with Memorial Day at the Barnstead Elementary School.

Economic Development: Licensed professional foresters were referred to 28 landowners having 2,121 acres. When landowners retain professional forestry services they are making an investment, usually in forest stewardship planning and later with sustainable forest harvest operations.

Forest product marketing assistance was provided to 61 landowners and operators. Timber harvests were conducted under forester supervision with the professional fees paid by the landowner impacting 1,897 acres.

Conservation Education: Eighteen public presentations were given with 723 participants attending these educational seminars on current use, map and compass use, PLT school activities, Arbor Day and other forestry topics.

Special Projects: Assistance is being provided to the TIMCO / PLT Outdoor Classroom through a special US Forest Service grant administered through UNH. This is a partnership effort of UNH Cooperative Extension, Project Learning Tree, and TIMCO, the state's largest sawmill located in Barnstead. Planning includes developing the 25-acre woodland site into an outdoor classroom, develop a safe tour of the sawmill facility, to recruit and train volunteers to serve as guides and to help facilitate educational sessions utilizing the PLT materials.

The New Hampshire Fire Lookout Tower project involves nominating the 16 operating towers for inclusion on the National Historic Lookout Register, developing a visitor recognition program, developing a database of visitors for volunteer programs, and publishing A Guide to NH Fire Towers. This is a partnership project with the NH Division of Forests and Lands.

Through **Family Development** programming, people in Belknap County gain information and learn skills to assist in making wise decisions and adopting behaviors relating to: managing their resources, child and human development, parenting, food safety, nutrition and healthy lifestyles. This year 2,261 consumer and family contacts were made.

705 families and caregivers received parenting and child development information to gain the confidence, knowledge and skills to be more effective while raising children. Of these families, 240 received the Cradle Crier or Toddler Tales newsletters mailed to their homes in sync with their children's ages. The information they received helped them to be better prepared to meet children's needs and stimulate their growth and development from birth to 24 months.

159 parents, with a total of 282 children, attended one or more Family Focus Parenting programs taught by 7 volunteer Family Focus Parent Educators or the Extension Educator.

A 5-week series of "Taking Charge of Your Finances" helped 6 adults develop spending/savings plans, reduce/ manage debt and evaluate

insurance needs. Two seminars on debt management were presented at the Lakes Region Corrections Facility to 24 incarcerated fathers. Several outcomes have been to review copies of credit files, make plans to reduce debt, and increase knowledge of resources to assist with financial issues upon being released from the facility. Along with our Nutrition Connections Program Associate, a 7-week series of Planning Ahead Staying Ahead was taught to 10 inmates at the Belknap County House of Corrections. PASA focuses on general money management skills and stretching food resources while eating a well balanced diet.

Assistance continued to be provided for The Family Connections Project and the Family Resource Center at the Lakes Region Corrections Facility. It is a unique collaboration between UNHCE, the Department of Corrections and UNH Family Studies Department to create and maintain healthy family relations and strong connections to the community in which the family lives through education and support while a parent is incarcerated.

72 adults attended one or a series of workshops to learn about the change process, to identify barriers to making long term healthier changes and to begin to take those small steps to living a healthier lifestyle. 78 adults with diet and nutrition questions contacted Extension to receive information to assist them in adopting healthier eating behaviors. 417 fact sheets were distributed in addition to those at programs.

104 food service workers attended a 2-hour Safety Awareness in the Food Environment (SAFE) workshop to reduce the risk of consumers getting a food borne illness in the Lakes Region at area restaurants and senior centers. 83 consumers increased their knowledge of safe food practices and applied those principles to common food handling situations.

The quality of child care continued to increase in the county this year as 64 child care providers attended one or more of the eight Better Kid Care training via satellite from Penn State University.

The **Nutrition Connections** Program reaches limited income families, groups and individuals in Belknap County, teaching basic education in the areas of nutrition, money management, food preparation, food safety, menu planning and smart shopping. Nutrition Connections also works with schools that meet income criteria. Programs are offered to both adults and youth. 197 youth and 54 families with 154 family

members enrolled in the various programs provided by Nutrition Connections over the past year.

Planning Ahead Staying Ahead: This program offers adults lessons in both money management and nutrition. 49 adults participated in one or more lessons. This program was offered at the Belknap County House of Corrections, Cornerbridge , The Salvation Army, and with numerous adults in their homes.

Planning Ahead Staying Ahead for Seniors: A total of 39 seniors participated in programs held at The Meredith Senior Center, and at the Stafford House (elderly housing). All seniors received 8 issues of Nutri-News newsletter.

Youth Programs: 197 youth received at least 6 lessons in improving their nutrition. 103 pre-school and kindergarten age children were taught at Head Start, and Lakes Region Day Care. 70 first graders were taught at Woodland Heights School in Laconia.

Additional Youth Activities: 58 fifth graders at Pleasant Street School in Laconia had a class on choosing healthier drinks. 3 different workshops involving 20 teenagers and 9 elementary school children were conducted for Genesis Behavioral Health. Material covered included the food pyramid, five a day, food safety, and fast food. 13 teens participating in teen conference attended a workshop on nutrition, fitness, and food safety at UNH.

Additional Adult Activities: 45 people attended four different fitness workshops. 4 adults at the REACH Program in Meredith participated in a class on healthy food choices for their children. 5 different nutrition classes involving a total of 12 individuals were taught to LEAP participants. Nutrition Connections and The Family Lifeskills Program continue to collaborate together on referrals.

Other Accomplishments: 26 volunteers donated approximately 96 hours to assist in adult and youth programs. They assisted with marketing, teaching, classroom assistance, transportation, copying, cleaning, shopping, and cooking. A great deal of work goes into programming and the volunteers are a large component of having things work smoothly.

The 2001 **4-H Youth Development Program** has stabilized in several ways. There has been an overall increase from 25 to 29 clubs. 4-H enrollment is up from 226 to 278 youth. There has also been a significant combined increase of 104 to 303 volunteers serving in traditional and non-traditional programs. 9 new volunteers have completed the screening process and another 13 are pending. New clubs in underrepresented areas have been established in Alton with 17 members and 3 volunteers and a Regional Shooting Sports Club with 15 members and 4 specialized volunteers serve Belknap, Grafton, and Carroll County. Innovative efforts to meet the needs of at-risk youth are also being developed. The State Prison in Laconia uses 4-H curriculum to help incarcerated dads develop a better relationship with their children and connect families to their community. Additionally, through collaboration with Lakes Region Community Services Council, a Friendship 4-H Club is being developed for girls 10 - 12 years old with special needs. These specialized volunteers will focus on building good social skills and peer relationships through character education, community service, and traditional projects.

Teens are taking a more active role. Belknap County for the 1st time in many years reached its quota of 5 participants at Teen Conference. This core of enthused teens are marketing the program for future participants. 3 teens attended the Clothing and Textiles Career Trip in New York and 2 served as scribes at the Sanbornton Community Profile - followed up with an identified priority by organizing the Old Home Day parade. 2 teens are serving as full participants on the Belknap County Extension Advisory Council. The Virtual Teen Club has expanded from 1 member and 1 advisor to 10 members and 3 advisors and are they applying for a national 4-H tree-planting grant to implement an arboretum at the 4-H fairgrounds.

Project participation has leveled off as expected after such a significant surge in growth last year.

	1999	2000	2001
Citizenship	355	1,219	1,064
Communications	399	336	279
Consumer / Family Sciences	156	132	166
Environmental / Earth Sciences	524	756	631
Healthy Lifestyle Education	321	534	489
Personal Day / Leadership	256	340	201
Animal and Plants	592	526	445
Science and Technology	210	179	182

Through collaborative efforts with NH Fish and Game, the "Let's Go Fishing" program was successful for the 1st time in several years with 8 youth and 7 adults completing the course. New this year was an Ice Fishing Short Course that provided instruction and safety techniques to 7 youth and 6 adults. Volunteers provided a multi-county goat clinic and rabies clinic for the public. The Garden Clinic was again organized by 2 volunteers and attended by 27 youth. One volunteer, a Master Gardner, visited each garden site offering specialized support. Countywide events involved 31 youth profiling projects in foods and nutrition, presentations, photography, clothing and textiles and animal science. 23 horse project members competed at the National competition in Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology and Judging and 3 members served on the NH Equestrian Team to Eastern States Exposition. 33 Belknap County youth attended NH 4-H camps of which 9 are 4-H members. 212 youth showcased their accomplishments at the 4-H Fair.

Extension Educators
Sumner Dole, Forest Resources
Barbara J. Hunter, Family Development
Becky Levesque, 4-H Youth Development
Amy Ouellette, Agricultural Resources
Brenda Carey, Nutrition Connections

Extension Support Staff
Melba Haddock, Administrative Assistant
Barbara Brink, Secretary

For additional information contact Belknap County UNH Cooperative Extension, 36 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246-2900. Phone: 527-5475, FAX 527-5477, http://ceinfo.unh.edu. UNH Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer. University of New Hampshire, U.S. Department of Agriculture and N.H. Counties cooperating.

Belknap County Conservation District

COMMUNITY PLANNING BCCD is continuing to distribute "Data Requirements for Site Review: Guidance for Planning Boards" by the NH Office of State Planning (NHOSP) which suggests three levels of review for development proposals. The District's Annual Meeting program focused on that document, GrowSmart NH and Dollars and Sense of Open Space. The meeting included updates on the Land Conservation and Heritage Investment Program and an introduction to the Friends of the Suncook River. BCCD continued to encourage the state to retain land adjacent to the prison in Laconia as State Park and State Forest. BCCD Supervisor Francesca Latawiec is serving on the National Association of Conservation District's (NACD) Environmental and Resource Policy Committee. A Locally Led Conservation planning session was held jointly with Merrimack County CD. Supervisor Nancy Rendall is assisting with NRCS Soils Mapping in Gilmanton. Information and services were provided as requested to towns by the NRCS District Natural Resource Planning Leader or the BCCD Program Coordinator (PC). Summaries of several workshops, proposed laws and other resource information were included in newsletters. Review and monitoring services continued to be available to municipalities and staff has started visiting municipal boards to discuss services available and collect their ideas for our long term planning. Promotion continues of the "Stormwater Management and Erosion Control for Urban and Developing Areas of NH". Many of the practices used to control stormwater also provide protection to water quality.

WATER QUALITY: New 319 Clean Water Act matching funds are helping install stormwater management improvements at the Center Harbor Beach (began as NCRC&D AmeriCorps project) and Laconia's Union Cemetery. Both are underway with completions expected next year. Grant proposals have been submitted for projects in Belmont and the county. We assisted the NH Dept. of Environmental Services by hosting a program on Wetlands Regulations at Belmont's new meeting hall. Everett McLaughlin, retired from USFW, provided pond reviews to their owners (fee program). BCCD helped fund the Lake Winnepesaukee Association's AmeriCorps Team Leader who oversaw the activities of AmeriCorps members that were financed by and worked in the offices of most lake front towns. We participated in NH's seventh "Celebrate Your Lakes Day", coordinated by LWA and AmeriCorps members with programs by government and private groups. It was held in Meredith with funding support from their Rotary Club. The Gunstock Water Quality and Nature Trail guides on Soils, Forest Road

Practices and Construction Practices will be done soon. Backyard Conservation programs were held in Ctr. Harbor, at Prescott Farm in Laconia, and in Ctr. Barnstead. How homeowners manage their own yards can affect water quality, wildlife and more. Wetlands Walk tours were provided to the public and students. Maintenance is assisted by purchases of "boards" that are marked with their donors names. Local volunteers, from 8 to 80 years, continue to be involved at the Wetlands Walk, assisting Gunstock with erosion and sediment control, buffer planting and other aspects of the project. A wood duck box, donated by Mike Lynch, was installed there by AmeriCorps members and volunteers. Displays were set up and information distributed at Belknap County 4-H Fair, the Mountain of Demonstrations, The Lakes Region Home Show, River Walk, and Gilford Old Home Days. Activities in the watersheds surrounding water bodies are being emphasized in projects because they, in addition to shoreline activities, affect water quality. BCCD Chairman John Hodsdon served on the State's Nonpoint Source Pollution Committee, attends the Rivers Council's Instream Flow meetings, chairman of the NHACD Water Quality and Urban Conservation Committee, chairman of the NCRC&D Water Resources Committee, NH-DES Water Quality Standards Advisory Committee, and as NH's NACD Director.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION BCCD and the Lakes Region Day Care Center participated in a pilot project for NH's Food, Land and People program. It is an educator's volume with many easy to use activities to help students K-12 better understand why land and caring for it is important to everyone. Habitat for Life poster contest winners were: 6th gr.- Anna Schaefer - Gilford, 5th gr. Kirsten Winters - Laconia, and 3rd gr. Jacob

Harper - Gilmanton was also NHACD's 1st place! Grants were received from the Pardoe Foundation and Hunt Foundation to improve and continue Watershed and Water Quality (WSWQ) Days held at the Wetlands Walk area. Shep's Boat Basin, Meredith Harley Davidson, Nash Realty and EM Heath Inc. provided bussing for Inter-Lakes' 7th graders. Participating middle school students also came from: Barnstead, Belmont, Gilford, and Gilmanton. Several students from the NH Technical College in Laconia volunteered with BCCD to complete a requirement for their Environmental Studies class. BCCD volunteer Everett McLaughlin and LWA AmeriCorps members participated in Inter-Lakes Clean Lakes Day for 7th graders. BCCD assisted Prescott Farm - NH Audubon with their "Farming for Wildlife" by providing the soils and soil ecology site. All staff participated in Belmont's 6th grade Nature Day and Laconia's Woodland Heights' 2nd graders Wetlands Walk exploration.

AmeriCorps members assisted with the NHACD High School Soils Judging Contest. The Lakes Region was represented at the NH ENVIROTHON (household and homesite nonpoint source pollution theme) by Newfound and Winnisquam High Schools; the 2002 focus is Invasive Species. On a voluntary basis the BCCD Program Coordinator continues to serve as the NHACD ENVIROTHON Steering Committee Chair. Please contact the office for information on starting teams for either program. Had a display at Gilford Old Home Days. AmeriCorps member Pat Tarpey assisted at Sanbornton Elementary Schools' Environmental Day. The Soil Tunnel was used at several of the fairs and events, allowing kids to see what it would look like to be underground. Other opportunities to reach the public with information were the Sustainable Slopes Day at Gunstock and the Belknap County Day hosted by the County Commissioners. The Coordinator participated in several CoSeed meetings at Gilford Elementary School. Marge Muehlke serves at the NHACD Information and Education Committee chairman. The EnviroScape water quality landscape model was borrowed by teachers and the WMNF for demonstrations. Many thanks to Kevin Sullivan of Melnick's Shoes for allowing us to display student and other educational posters in his empty window.

AGRICULTURE: The Program Coordinator worked with NRCS District Conservationist (DC) to develop a grant proposal to assist a county farmer. An introduction to growing your own food was provided to women prisoners. The Price Farm (dairy) in Gilmanton Iron Works was the Belknap County Cooperator of the year and the NH Assoc. of Conservation Districts statewide Cooperator!

The family is the 5th generation to work the farm. The NRCS DC worked with farmers to assist them with developing their Conservation Plans for the Food Security Act program and for Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program. The Manure Management for water quality protection and animal health booklet was provided at the Women's Agricultural Network meeting. It can also be used for a guided tour at Gunstock's horse barn. BCCD Program Assistant works cooperatively with the NCRC&D's Belknap County Beginner Farmer Program. PC participated in Winnisquam Regional High School's Agricultural Program Advisory Committee. BCCD provides staff assistance to local residents at the leased land at the Opechee Forest. The county's third trout sale for stocking ponds was held. Soil Potential Index (SPI) ratings for use in determining values of open land in Current Use for tax determinations and information about them were provided to landowners.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS: BCCD had 2 part time AmeriCorps members to assist with information and outreach activities. Several programs were shown on Public Access TV and local radio (thanks to Esther Peters). The tenth Annual Tree and Shrub Sale was held offering evergreen, fruit trees, shoreland and wildlife shrub seedlings. A planting workshop was held at the Longridge Farm delivery site with the assistance of BCCD Assoc. Supervisor Paul Rushlow. The sixth fall bulb sale was held; the Opechee Garden Club assisted with planting a bulb garden for a severely disabled veteran. Volunteers assisted at the gardens, with the tree and bulb sales, at the Wetlands Walk, at events, with mailings and in the office. Programs on BCCD's services and volunteer opportunities were provided to community groups. The PC is Secretary of the NHACD Urban and Water Quality Committee chaired by BCCD chairman John Hodsdon. John also serves on the Executive Committee as a past President of NHACD, NH's NACD Director, and attended the NACD New England Leadership Meeting.

VOLUNTEERS: Helped in every aspect of the program: indoors, outdoors, computers, mailings, trails, plants... Thanks! We couldn't do it without you!!

The BCCD Board of Supervisors feels that the accomplishments of this past year were made possible through the generous support of many individuals, Belknap County, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other natural resource partners, and grants from the Pardoe Foundation, Hunt Foundation, NH Dept. of Environmental Services/EPA, Lakes Region Charitable Foundation.

All BCCD and NRCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, political belief, marital or familial status.

Respectfully Submitted,
BCCD Board of Supervisors

new phone: **527-5880**

John Hodsdon, Chairman, Meredith
Francesca Latawiec, Vice Chairman, Barnstead
Nancy Rendall, Treasurer, Gilmanton
Allan Turner, Supervisor, Gilford
Marjorie Muehlke, Supervisor, Gilford
Paul Rushlow, Assoc. Supervisor, Tilton
Earle Chase, Assoc. Supervisor, Barnstead